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### FOR SEXUAL ASSAULT OF A MINOR

# Ex-DPS chief arrested

- » Deleon Guerrero, Concepcion allowed to post \$25K, \$10K cash bail, property bond
- » Defendants allegedly had sex with same minor girl on bed of DPS truck

Pua Hinano members perform a Tahitian dance in the 35th Annual Flame Tree Arts Festival at the Civic Center beach in Susupe. Irma Scalamera formed the group.

See story on Page 7 and more photos on Page 14 By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

assistant for pecial Homeland Security and Emergency Management James C. Deleon Guerrero was arrested on Friday for allegedly sexually assaulting a then-15-year-old girl while he was commissioner of the Department of Public Safety in 2013.





Concepcion

Deleon Guerrero and his co-defendant, Police Officer 3 Jesse S. Concepcion, were both taken on Friday before Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho for bail hearing on

See EX-DPS on Page 4

# Administration defends new gun law

### » Guns right activist say legal challenge on the way

By DENNIS B. CHAN

The administration of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres defended the CNMI's new gun control laws on Friday as a law that could be "a role model" for the new law, Public law 19-42, other U.S. states and jurisdic- was likely, particularly over a

tions facing seemingly uncontrolled and continued gun violence.

The administration was responding to queries regarding its position on recent reports that the a legal challenge to

provision that assess a \$1,000 excise tax on pistols.

Guns.com, for one, published an article last Tuesday on the new law, quoting gun right activists disdain who called the new CNMI law as a

# Seman: Deal on sale of tuna quota done

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON

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REPORTER

The CNMI government has "entered into an agreement" with the Hawaii Longliner Association regarding the Commonwealth's tuna catch "naked attempt to circumvent" | limits, according to Depart- an agreement with

Resources Secretary Richard Seman.

Seman told Saipan Tribune in an interview that the governor has entered into an agreement.

"I know that the governor had entered See GUN on Page 4 | ment of Lands and Natural the Hawaii Longliner Asso-



Seman

not, at this point in time, know the details of it," Seman said.

ciation, but I do

While Seman said he doesn't know yet exactly how much the CNMI's quota

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### INSIDE =



### LOCAL

Claudia Adriano's story began on Saipan, where she learned the value of hard work and perseverance from her mother, Margaret Castro Camacho.

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NATION

Ted Cruz nailed down all 14 delegates up for grabs at the Republican Party convention in Wyoming.

» PAGE 15



### **ASIA**

Thousands of rescue workers searched a debris-strewn village in southern Japan for about a half-dozen missing people Sunday.

» **PAGE 16** 



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2 MONDAY, APRIL 18, 2016 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# Local

## Parents, fiancé not giving up on Yamada sisters

JON PEREZ Hideki Yamada, second right, and his wife Kozue join Kenichi Ichikawa, the fiancée of their daughter Chinatsu, and their friends at the finish line of last Saturday's Saipan Marathon at the American Memorial Park.





By JON PEREZ

jon\_perez@saipantribune.com REPORTER

A little over 10:30am and amidst the sweltering heat of the sun—that reached as high as 91°F —Hideki and Kozue Yamada joined Kenichi Ichikawa, their younger daughter Chinatsu's fiancée, as he crossed the finish line of last Saturday's Saipan Marathon at the American Memorial Park

Ichikawa ran the 50-kilometer course, while Hideki and another friend conquered the 42K full marathon. Kozue ran the shorter 10K. All of them, including other companions who were waiting for them at the finish line, wore T-shirts that showed the faces of Yamada sisters—Natsuki and Chinatsu—in front and the words "Never Give Up."

The Yamada couple had already finished running their respective races, but chose to join Ichikawa and another friend in the final kilometer heading toward the finish line as a show of unity in their hopes of finding closure on the mysterious disappearance of their daughters.

"We just want to keep the community aware of our situation that our daughters remain missing, that's why we decided to wear this shirts to show everyone that we're not giving up," an emotional Hideki told *Saipan Tribune* after they crossed the finish line.

Ichikawa, for most of the interview, kept touching the photo of his fiancée from a banner hanging a few meters from the finish line.

"We are asking the entire

community's help for any information that they could give on their whereabouts. Maybe, they are locked up somewhere or trapped in an island, we still don't know. We are making a plea to anybody who knows something."

The elder Yamada, whose family operates an apple orchard in Nagano prefecture, said the Department of Public Safety still has no new information the last time they visited Saipan early this year.

The Yamadas and Ichikawa were on Saipan in January this year to meet with Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and DPS officials. "There's still nothing new. They gave us no new information," said Hideki.

Aside from the T-shirts and banners, the Yamadas and their friends had printed flyers that they placed in schools, gas stations, hotels, and at Himawari Restaurant in Garapan with contact information of the person they could get in touch with regarding the missing sisters.

"We will keep coming back here every two to three months to get updates. We are still hopeful and we remain optimistic," added Hideki.

The Japanese Consulate in the CNMI and the Japanese Society of Saipan are also helping the Yamada couple in their crusade of finding Natsuke and Chinatsu.

For any information about the missing sisters, call Junichi Kitagawa of the Japanese Society at 483-6421 or email her at junichi\_kitagawa@fiestasaipan.com or call DPS or the CNMI Crime Stoppers at 2347272.



# Kilili: NMI protected from oversight board

- » New draft of Puerto Bill includes 'Covenant protections'
- >> Also requires legislative and governor approval of oversight board

By DENNIS B. CHAN dennis\_chan@saipantribune.com

U.S. Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan said Saturday that a U.S. House of Representatives

bill aimed to provide financial oversight board to Puerto Rico has been redrafted with language specifically to prevent the bill from being interpreted in any way to weaken or

Sablan provided the update on the legislation aimed to help the ailing Puerto Rico, which has succumbed to over

change the CNMI Covenant.

\$70 million, in his newsletter on Saturday. He said the redrafted bill, H.R. 700, now has "specific language" that

Sablan had insisted on.

In an earlier draft, Congress was allowed to create a financial oversight board in the Northern Marianas or any U.S. territory, this would be a "clear violation" of the mutual consent provision of the Cov-

See KILILI on Page 4

## April rainfalls still below normal

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-

REPORTER

Below normal amounts of rainfall is still to be expected in the CNMI in the coming months, according to the latest drought information statement released by the National Weather Service.

According to the statement, "Conditions in April have been very dry with computer models indicating below normal rainfall over the next few months" in the CNMI.

Through the first half of April, NWS noted a rainfall of only 0.10 inch in Saipan, 0.30 inch in Tinian, and 0.29 inch in Rota, all not even reaching 30 percent normal for the month.

NWS added that "only a quarter inch or less of rain will fall through the next five days at Rota" and "Tinian and Saipan with less than a half inch of rain expected through the next 10 days."

The dry weather is also extended to the northern parts of the CNMI.

"Longer range models indicate rainfall will be much lower than normal through the next month or two at least," NWS said

Because of this, NWS advised that water supplies need to be monitored very closely and water conservation is highly encouraged.

"Water wells on Saipan could see an increase in salinity as the drought progresses," NWS warned.

They also warned of drying and yellowing of food crops and vegetation becoming worse and an increase in grass

"Livestock on Tinian may become stressed as food sources dry up," NWS added.

NWS said drought conditions are worsening across much of Micronesia with below normal rainfalls also affecting other areas such as the Republic of Palau, Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands where declarations of state of emergencies and disasters have been made.

In Palau, the Palau Public Utilities Corp. has implemented a new water-rationing schedule. Its capital, Koror, continues to be in an extreme drought or drought level 3 of 4, as only a third of normal rainfall has fallen since the beginning of March.

In the Republic of the Marshall Islands where all locations are in a severe or extreme drought, atolls have requested for and obtained assistance for their state.

The current El Nino-one of the strongest El Nino events in recorded history—is expected to persist through the first half of 2016.

"Computer models indicate this El Nino will weaken slowly before transitioning into neutral conditions by the summer and possibly La Nina conditions later in the year," NWS said

While "there could be a few wet days during the next few months through spring of 2016, NWS said, "Conditions will be much drier than normal. Rains will continue to be of much shorter duration, much less intense and much less frequent than normal."

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# ABTC officers can now suspend, revoke licenses

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON

frauleine\_villanueva@saipantribune.com REPORTER

Officers of the Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco Control Division of the CNMI Department of Commerce have been given the authority to revoke or suspend licenses of businesses for violating regula-

According to Commerce Secretary Mark Rabauliman, he made the designation of authority after a recent discussion of their operations with the division.

Through the designation, ABTC officers can "invoke their authority to revoke licenses" on two particular violations which are selling to a minor and selling after hours.

"There are a lot of infractions, there are a lot of things that can be cited, but what I made clear is that, if anything else, I want you to exercise the revocation right when these two, one or the other, is the violation," Rabauliman said.

Suspension authority is also given to the officers.

"The other violations I'm empowering them to use their prudent judgment," he added.

Some of these other violations are not asking for identification cards, not displaying licenses, and having outdated licenses.

Rabauliman said revocation of license may be up to a year while suspensions are effective for 48 hours. Initially, the power to sus-

pend or revoke rests on the secretary, but as he can designate it, he is now designating it to his officers. Establishments will still

have the right to appeal when their licenses are revoked or "In any of those things, you do have the right as a licensed

bauliman said. This comes after Commerce, along with partners in the Department of Public Safety and the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.-Community Guidance Center, conducted joint operations on random es-

Ten were arrested for selling alcohol to minors, 12 establishments failed the alcohol compliance checks, while two were found to be non-compliant on tobacco control laws.

pliance last month.

There are 452 licensed establishments to sell alcoholic beverages in the CNMI with



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### **EX-DPS**

From Page 1

charges of sexual assault in the first degree and sexual assault in the second degree.

The Office of the Attorney General hinted that more charges such as misconduct in public office may be filed against the defendants.

Camacho granted the defendants' request to modify the \$100,000 cash bail that Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo earlier imposed in issuing the arrest warrant.

allowed the Camacho 44-year-old Deleon Guerrero and the 45-year-old Concepcion to post \$25,000 cash bail and \$10,000 cash bail plus property bond, respectively.

Camacho found Deleon Guerrero's wife, Karen Deleon Guerrero, suitable to serve as his third party custodian.

Camacho found Concepcion's brother, Ignacio Concepcion, suitable to serve as third party custodian for the police officer.

The judge imposed strict conditions in modifying the bail such as placing the defendants on house arrest and having no contact with minors without the presence of the third party custodians.

After the bail hearing yesterday afternoon, Concepcion was in tears as he hugged his tearful wife, who he just married in 2014. Deleon Guerrero's wife was also in tears in court.

Preliminary hearing will be on April 19 at 1:30pm. Arraignment will be on April 25 at 9am.

Attorneys Joaquin Torres and Richard Pierce appeared as private counsel for Deleon Guerrero and Concepcion, respectively.

Assistant attorneys general Matthew Baisley and Shannon Foley appeared for the government.

Govendo sealed the case on Thursday following the government's request considering that at the time, Deleon Guerrero was in Guam and was believed arriving on Saipan on Saturday, April 16.

On Friday morning, Baisley requested to unseal the matter during the bail hearing of Concepcion, who was arrested on Thursday morning. The judge granted the motion.

Deleon Guerrero, however, arrived on Saipan from Guam on Friday morning and was arrested on his way to surrendering to authorities.

Investigators from the Attorney General's Investigation Division, accompanied by Federal Bureau of Investigation special agents, arrested Concepcion at the DPS impounding lot in Lower Base on Thursday morning.

AG Investigation Division investigator Vicente Boki Babauta stated in his report that in June to July 2013, while Deleon Guerrero was DPS commissioner, he engaged in sexual intercourse with the then-15-year-old girl on two different occasions in a DPS T-100 truck at a secluded San Antonio beach site.

Babauta said that in June to July 2013, Concepcion, while a DPS police officer, engaged in sexual intercourse with the same minor girl on several occasions in a DPS T-100 truck at the San Antonio beach site.

It was Concepcion who allegedly offered to find a girl for Deleon Guerrero for the purpose of having sex as the commissioner's wife was off-island tending to her sick father.

Both Deleon Guerrero and Concepcion allegedly admitted to an FBI special agent during interview that they had sex with the same girl.

Deleon Guerrero allegedly stated that he did not know then that the girl was a minor because of his severe vision loss.

Babauta said that on July 16, 2013, a concerned citizen reported a sexual abuse of a minor to DPS, but due to the nature of the complaint, the FBI was notified and took part in the investigation.

Babauta said the joint investigation led to the arrest and conviction of some suspects who are now serving sentences for federal charges in federal prison for sexual exploitation and human trafficking.

On Sept. 24, 2015, the case was forwarded to the AG Investigative Division to pursue several individuals on local charges.

On March 10, 2016, AGID initiated a joint investigation with the FBI into the matter.

Babauta said that on July 18, 2013, DPS police detective Melissa Bauleong met and interviewed the 15-yearold girl, who stated that she ran away from home.

In June 2013, the girl moved in with Annette N. Basa at her residence in Afetnas, San Antonio. While staying in Afetnas, Basa introduced the girl to a man named "Ton" for the purpose of engaging in sexual

The girl first met "Ton" in June 2013. She stated that one day she went to DPS and saw "Ton" in uniform. She later found out that "Ton" was just a fake name as his real name is Jesse Concepcion and is a police officer.

Between June 2013 to July 2013, Concepcion had sex with the girl on several different occasions in a black DPS T-100 truck at the San Antonio beach site.

On July 30, 2013, Bauleong interviewed Concepcion, who confirmed that he first met the girl in June 2013, and admitted he had sex with the girl on four different occasions at the San Antonio beach area.

FBI special agent Haejun Park interviewed the girl on July 23, 2013.

Concepcion admitted that Basa introduced him to approximately seven girls over a period of several years.

The girl estimated that she had sex with Concepcion on 20 occasions and that on two occasions, he brought a friend and that both had sex with her.

Concepcion drove several different vehicles to the meeting, including a black Toyota T-100 with dark tinted windows, a purple jeep, a black jeep, and a blue convertiblelike sports car.

During an interview with Park on Sept. 3, 2013, Concepcion admitted that he first met the girl in June 2013 and that he had sex with her on

four different occasions at a San Antonio beach site.

Concepcion further stated that on the second and third encounters with the girl, he brought his friend, then DPS commissioner Deleon Guerrero, and they both had sex with her.

During Park's interview with Deleon Guerrero on March 18, 2014, Deleon Guerrero admitted he had sex with the girl at the San Antonio beach site on two separate occasions when his wife was off-island tending to her sick father.

Deleon Guerrero stated that it was Concepcion who offered to find girl for him for the purpose of having sex.

Deleon Guerrero said that on the first occasion, Concepcion picked him up in a black T-100 truck and they drove to the San Antonio beach site.

Deleon Guerrero stated that on that occasion, he had oral sex with the girl in the truck's bed.

Deleon Guerrero said that on the second occasion, Concepcion picked him up in the same truck and drove to the same beach, where they took turns having sex with the girl in the truck.

Deleon Guerrero explained that he did not know then that he had sex with a minor girl on those two occasions because of his severe vision loss.

Babauta said Deleon Guerrero believed that Concepcion knew the girl was underage but he lied to him.

At the bail modification hearing, Torres proposed a bail of \$25,000 cash plus property bond for Deleon Guerrero.

Torres said Deleon Guerrero is not a flight risk and does not pose danger to the community.

Torres said Deleon Guerrero was an outstanding police officer for several years, served as DPS commissioner, and now as HSEM special assistant.

Torres said there is no confession of Deleon Guerrero whatsoever.

Pierce proposed a \$10,000 cash bail and 25,000 square meters of property bond for Concepcion.

Fishery Ecosystem Plan for

Some of the main objectives of the CNMI's MCP are focused on education, scientific research, and marine development, according to Seman.

We ask for solicitation for proposal. Those proposals will have to be consistent with the content of the Marine Conservation Plan," Seman said.

According to Seman, having an advisory council to manage the selection of proj-

an advisory council, hopefully we can put five people together, and they will be the one to review applications and decide whether that applicant should be approved or not for funding from the MCP," Seman said.

Pierce said the government is suggesting that it's a sex predator case, but the affidavit was not telling that.

Pierce said Concepcion is not a flight risk and does not pose danger to the community.

Pierce said the FBI, the U.S. Attorney's Office, and the Office of the Attorney General, knew about this matter since 2013 and if Concepcion poses a danger to the community, why was he given a gun.

"This is Johnny come lately," Pierce said.

Assistant attorney general Foley said the government opposes any kind of reduction to the \$100,000 cash bail for both defendants because of the nature of the case as well as their evidence.

Foley pointed out that they have evidence of defendants' confessions.

Foley said sexual assault of a minor is very complicated case and that the court should exercise utmost caution to protect other minors.

With respect to Deleon Guerrero, Foley said the wife can't check the defendant periodically because of her work schedule at Best Sunshine International, Ltd.

The prosecutor also noted Deleon Guerrero's position of authority during the allega-

Regarding Concepcion, Foley noted there are three children living in the compound where the defendant's brother stays.

Foley said according to Babauta's affidavit, Concepcion was soliciting sex as it was him who offered to give a girl to Deleon Guerrero to have sex.

Foley said the allegations in this case are serious and egregious.

In explaining briefly the bail issue, Camacho said the law requires that bail shall be such to insure the presence of the defendant in future court proceedings.

Camacho said the court shall take into account the nature and circumstances of the charges, the weight of the evidence against the defendant, financial ability, and character of the defendant.

He said for cause shown, the law allows for the bail to be increased, decreased, or modified.

### GUN

From Page 1

the federal court ruling that struck down the hand gun ban

"Government cannot tax a constitutional right out of existence," UCLA professor of Law Adam Winkler said in Guns.com article. "I expect this tax to be struck down quickly."

The article also stated that gun rights advocates who backed the lawsuit that struck down the Commonwealth's ban on handguns "are gearing up for action.'

"We expected the Governor to sign it," Second Amendment Foundation Executive Vice President Alan Gottlieb said in the article.

"Our SAF legal team is working on the next step. It seems that the anti-gun rights politicians never learn," Gottieb added.

In a statement, the Torres administration said the new law, the Special Act for Firearms Enforcement, or SAFE Act, is intended to regulated

the possession of firearms in the Commonwealth, including "several provisions to ensure the prevention of and the proliferation and misuse of firearms in the CNMI. "

"The Commonwealth has enjoyed a peaceful society through the unique treaty under the Covenant with the United States for 40 some years," the administration said. "It is the law's intent that the possession and use of handguns will be for selfdefense and not for the indiscriminate use to harm human life or to intimidate.

We have seen many cases of illegal gun possession and use," the administration added, "which have needlessly harmed human life. In such instances, government officials and families of victims often call for stricter gun rules to prevent further loss of life.

"The CNMI is taking preemptive steps to safeguard our community. It is envisioned that perhaps, CNMI's PL 19-42 can be a role model for other areas seeking stricter gun rules and safer communities," it added.

### **KILILI** From Page 3

enant Sahlan said since the oversight board would be part of the local government and since the Covenant requires that the Northern Marianas to agree to any change in the structure of our local govern-

In an interview, Sablan also discussed another provision that requires "a resolution by our legislature signed by our governor" to establish this oversight board.

This means it has to be "an affirmative act of our government here to have an oversight

board," he said.

"If we are getting to a point where we would need an oversight board, the federal government would be able to twist our arm because we would be in such a bad position that we wouldn't have any choice," Sablan told Saipan Tribune.

The CNMI government reportedly has a \$300-million deficit, and another \$700 million with settlement payments owed to the NMI Retirement Fund.

Sablan is "happy that we are in the bill" because there would be separate provisions of the bill that will address benefits and programs that will be extended to the NMI.

### SEMAN

From Page 1

were sold, he said it was "a lot higher" than what was initially offered.

In February, the association wrote a letter to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres offering a threeyear deal to pay \$200,000 each year for 1,000 metric tons of bigeye tuna-or half of the Commonwealth's catch limits—to allow their fishing vessels to catch "against the CNMI catch limit."

The offer was made on the expectation that Hawaii longliners would exhaust their own catch quota. Similar agreements with the CNMI have been made in the last several years. The offered payment is

not tied down to whether the longliners actually end up using the CNMI quota and payment will be made regardless of the amount of catch HLA has in any given year.

"I don't know how much the amount is but it's a lot higher than what was offered by Longliner Association," Seman said.

Torres flew to Hawaii last week to discuss the sale of fishing quota, among other things and said that he is "trying to get as much as we can."

"The governor managed to make it even better." Seman said.

When asked how the CNMI will be paid, Seman said, "The funds will be available as per the agreement; however the expenditure of that agreement can only be used through the funding of projects that are submitted to the Marine Conservation Plan proposal."

"It will be provided to the CNMI and the Department of Finance will set up an account for it " he added

The Marine Conservation Plan is a three-year plan developed by DLNR in concurrence with the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council. The plan provides details on uses for funds to be collected under the Pacific Insular Area Fishery Agreement. The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1996 requires that the MCP be consistent with the Council's Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP) for the Mariana Archipelago and the

Pacific Pelagic Fisheries.

ect proposals is vital.

"It's important for us to have

# US govt wants couple's claim to seized \$23K cash dismissed

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com

The U.S. government has asked the federal court to dismiss a couple's claim of ownership to the \$23,000 that was seized at the Francisco C. Ada-Saipan International Airport from a hand-carried luggage of a store worker who was bound for Shanghai, China in February last year.

Assistant U.S. attorney Russell H. Lorfing said the claim was not properly sworn to by petitioners Xingnong Xu and his wife, Shaorong Zheng, who claimed they are the in-

nocent owners of the forfeited money at issue.

Lorfing said the petition fails to set forth the time and circumstances of the petitioners' acquisition of the right, title, and interest in the forfeited money.

The prosecutor also stated that petitioners Xu and Zheng fail to state a claim on which they can recover the money.

Xu and Zheng, through counsel Samuel I. Mok, in their petition said they did not know that Delin Ma, who actually transported the money would fail to report the currency on a FinCen Form 105 as required by law.

Mok said the couple col-

lectively earned the money from their joint savings from their long-time employment as managers at LN Market and Blue Sky Market.

Mok said the \$20,000 was intended for the couple's son's living expenses and tuition payment for a private school, and Xu's mother for Chinese New Year celebration.

Mok said \$3,000 was for personal loan to Ma.

Mok asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to return to the couple the seized \$23,000.

A federal grand jury indicted Ma with one count of bulk cash smuggling out of the United States.

Under the currency reporting laws, a person is required to report any amount of currency \$10,000 and over when traveling out of or into the U.S.

Ma pleaded guilty.

Attorney Mark Hanson, counsel for Ma, said the defendant was stopped at the Saipan airport on his way back to China for his son's wedding.

In December 2015, the court imposed a 36-month probation sentence on the 52-yearold Ma. The court forfeited the \$23,000 seized from Ma.

The court also ordered the

he was carrying on his person at the time of his arrest.

In the U.S. government's motion to dismiss, Lorfing said in no way do petitioners provide the time and circumstances of their acquisition of their legal interest in the forfeited money in a way that would allow the court to determine if they have a claim for which relief could be granted.

"We are left to ponder whether the \$23,000 claimed by petitioners was earned over a 12-month period or a 10year time span," Lorfing said.

Lorfing said petitioners return to Ma the \$3,294 that have not stated a proper basis for recovery of the money.

He said to avoid wasting considerable judicial resources in conducting discovery on matters not in dispute, and to allow the parties to focus their resources on the issues that truly matter with respect to petitioners' theory of recover, the court must hold petitioners accountable for their failure to state a legal basis for recovery.

In Xu's and Zheng's petition for return of the seized property filed on Monday, Mok said at the time of the seizure, Ma was a fulltime employee of LN Market.

Mok said Ma is Zheng's distant relative.



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# CNMI visitor arrivals down 12 pct in March

Visitors arrivals to the CNMI dropped 12 percent in March 2016 compared to March 2015.

According to the Marianas Visitors Authority, arrivals to the islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota registered 37,317 visitors in March 2016, compared to 42.539 visitors received in March 2015. Overall this fiscal year, visitor arrivals are essentially unchanged compared to the same period last fiscal year.

Arrivals from China dropped 5 percent compared to March 2015 to 15,462 visitors, as China's outbound tourism market enters the low season. The MVA's team in China

is working with travel partners to carry out a wide range of marketing programs including celebrity shooting FAM, a major social media promotion and a Saipan Marathon campaign to boost the destination exposure and stimulate shoulder season demand.

Arrivals from Korea

Triple J will also have its

newest fundraising activ-

ity, selling Nathan's Famous

Hot Dogs at the Saipan Little

League games inside the Oleai

Sports Complex—Francisco

M. "Tan Ko" Palacios and

Miguel Basa "Tan Ge" Pan-

gelinan ballfields-on April

30 with all proceeds going to

For more information on

MMAC Team LDTF/NMC

T-shirt selling fundraiser.

email Irene T. Torres at irene.

tudelatorres@gmail.com or

Su Jin Jeon at sujin.jeon@

my.marianas.edu or visit Jerry

Pangelinan at the NMC Ad-

MMAC.

## LDTF-NMC, Triple J hold separate MMAC fundraising events

The Lady Diann Torres Foundation-Northern Marianas College and Triple J, which have separate teams in the 2016 Marianas March Against Cancer, are holding separate fundraising events with all proceeds going to this year's MMAC set on May 13 and 14 at the Hopwood Junior High School grounds.

Team LDTF-NMC is selling commemorative "Believe in a Cure" T-shirts at \$20 each. The T-shirts were first sold during the NMC Charter Day last week and was one of the popular items bought in their tent.

The 2016 MMAC committee extends its sincere gratitude to team LDTF/NMC

for their efforts in raising badly needed funds for the fight against cancer. We encourage the community to purchase these shirts while supplies last," said 2016 MMAC overall chair Geralyn C. Dela Cruz.

Triple J, meanwhile, has four ways of raising funds that they would donate in this year's MMAC.

They will donate \$1 each for every iced tea purchased at their restaurants—Capricciosa and Tony Roma's in Garapan, and Truong's in Susupewhile a portion from their vehicle and care rental sales at Triple J Motors and Hertz, respectively, will be allotted to MMAC.

For more information on the MMAC, please email Dela Cruz at geri.delacruz2@ gmail.com or call the Commonwealth Cancer Association at 6820050 or visit www. ccamarianas.org.

CNMI Department of

missions Office.

dropped 15 percent in March to 12,743 visitors. Due to the long holiday period in February with Lunar New Year's holiday, outbound travel demand was slow in March. Asiana Airlines decreased its double daily service to one daily in late March and is expected to go back to double daily service for Incheon-Saipan in the summer high season. On the other hand, the MVA has been working with Jin Air and EASTAR JET, Korea's major low cost carriers, on the launch of new daily services to Saipan this summer. The MVA and Jin Air began conducting major online promotions together from mid-March to announce Jin Air's new service from June 9 and to boost advance ticket sales.

Arrivals from Japan fell 28

percent to 6,352 visitors as the NMI continued to feel the effect of Delta Air Lines cutting its Narita to Saipan night flight in October, a move that dropped airlift from the Japan market to just one daily flight, generating 6,169 monthly seats. With 6,352 visitors from Japan flying on 6,169 available seats, the Delta flights were almost entirely full, and Asiana Airlines operated three charter flights from Narita to Saipan on March 25, 28 and 31, which generated an additional 513 seats in conjunction with JTB World Vacations in order to relieve some of the pent-up demand which is not being met by Delta Air Lines' current single flight.

#### **Source markets** economic highlights

Japan's government lowered its assessment of the economy in March for the first time in five months due to weakness in consumer spending, a move likely to reinforce views that more fiscal stimulus will be needed to keep the economy growing. In March 2016, the yen continued to grow in value against the U.S. dollar for the fifth month in a row, to average 113.01 yen for the month. The Korean government recently struck an upbeat tone in its outlook for the country's economy, but it was at odds with what many economists believe is a stance not backed by solid evidence. The Ministry of Strategy and Finance forecast in its latest economic assessment report that Korea's industrial output and domestic demand, which have been sluggish for months, will show a slight recovery later this year. The average USD/ WON exchange rate in February was 1,141.95 won, 94.99 won down from the February rate of 1,235.94 won. (PR)

### Man arrested for allegedly buying items using forged checks

A man was arrested on Thursday in Kagman 3 for allegedly buying items at some stores on Saipan using forged checks he claimed issued to him by a disbarred lawyer.

Franklin Sablan Quitaneg, 26, was taken to Superior Court on Friday on charges of forgery, misuse of credit cards, issuance of bad checks, and theft.

Associate Judge Joseph

N. Camacho imposed a \$500 cash bail and \$4,500 unsecured bond.

Chief public defender Douglas Hartig was appointed as counsel for Quitaneg. Preliminary hearing will be on April 21 at 9am.

Police Detective Daniel Joab stated in his report that a police officer responded last Monday, April 11, to

XO Market in Gualo Rai, where a misuse of bad check happened.

Quitaneg allegedly bought some items using a check belonging to attorney Stephen Woodruff in the amount of \$600.

According to the manager of XO Market, last April 9 Quitaneg purchased some groceries using a check belonging to Woodruff and payable to him.

The manager said when she examined the check it was from Union Bank of California.

The manager said on that same day when she accepted the check, her friend, who owns JJ Market in Koblerville, sent out a group text, telling them not to accept any check belonging to Woodruff and made payable to Quitaneg.

The manager said Woodruff came to her store last Monday and told her not to accept any similar checks because the account is no longer valid and that he is no longer using that account.

Joab said he went to JJ Market on Thursday and was told that Quitaneg came last April 9 and used a check belonging to Woodruff in the amount of \$600 that was made payable to him.

The employee told Quitaneg that she cannot accept the check because it's from out of state.

Quitaneg stated that the check is good that can be used at First Hawaiian Bank on Saipan.

Quitaneg stated that he works for Woodruff.

The defendant also allegedly used the same checks at JJ Market, Green Consume II in Chalan Laulau, Shun Fu Market in Gualo Rai, and Blue Sky Market in Chalan Piao. (Ferdie de la Torre)



That Mr. Hari Bhujel is no longer connected with Marianas Security Corporation as of April 7, 2016. Any transaction made and entered after April 7, 2016 will not be honored.

Thank you by Management.

Edward C. Arriola Attorney-at-Law Sablan Bldg., Suite 1-F Saipan, MP 96950 Tel.: (670) 233-5507 Fax: (670) 233-5509

Attorney for Petitioner

#### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN **MARIANA ISLANDS**

IN THE MATTER OF | CIVIL ACTION THE ESTATE OF | NO. 16-0056 ANTONIO SABLAN | PALACIOS.

Date: May 17, 2016

Judge: The Hon, David

All creditors, claimants, Joaquin Palacios and Emily Beatrize Kazuma Palacios.

NOTICE is hereby given that a petition for letters of administration seeking appointment of John Anthony Cepeda Palacios, as Administrator of the Estate of ANTONIO SABLAN PALACIOS ('deceased"), was filed in the above-entitled Court. A hearing has been set for the above-entitled matter and will be held in Courtroom 223A of the Commonwealth Superior Court, located at the House of Justice-Guam Hustisia-Imwal Aweewe, Susupe, Saipan. Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, at 1:30 p.m., on May 17,

All persons who having any objection to the petition, or having a claim against the estate or the deceased, should file their claim with the Clerk of Court of the Commonwealth Superior court within sixty (60) days after the Dated this 6th day of April, 2016.

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

#### **TINIAN CASINO GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION**

Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission (TCGCC) hereby gives notice that it will hold a Regular Meeting on Thursday, April 21, 2016, at 9:00 a.m. at the TCGCC

### AGENDA

- PRELIMINARY a. Call to Order

  - Adoption of Agenda
  - Special Meeting September 03, 2015 Special Meeting - September 17, 2015
- Special Meeting March 04, 2016

### II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Chair's Report Executive Director's Report
- UNFINISHED BUSINESS
- TCGCC Proceeding No. 15-01 [TCGCC vs. HKE & Chan, Chun Wail
- **NEW BUSINESS** a. Contract of Executive Director

**EXECUTIVE SESSION 2** 

- MISCELLANEOUS/ADMINISTRATIVE
- MATTERS VIII. ADJOURNMENT

<sup>1</sup> Public comments are limited to 30 minutes and each remark is limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit

Written comments.

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Commission may vote to meet in executive session at any time.







Denise M. Mendiola Senior Business Advisor and Program Coordinator Bank of Guam Women in Business

### Saipan: "How to Prepare a Financial Plan"

By: Denise M. Mendiola April 20, 2016 9:00 am - 11:30 am (Wednesday) Northern Marianas College

A financial plan is the heart of any startup or existing business. It is a culmination of the income statement, the cash-flow projection and the business' balance sheet. The financial plan is a way to look at a business through a financial lens, which is the view most investors or bankers prefer. When preparing a financial plan, it is not mandatory that you be a mathematician, but you need to understand how the numbers affect a business. This training will provide a foundation on both the financial reports and methodology to develop the numbers for those reports.

Register by contacting the Department of Commerce at (670) 664-3018 or register online PISBDCN.ECENTERDIRECT.COM/EVENTS

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# Passion drives Scalamera to teach native dances

jon\_perez@saipantribune.com

Irma Scalamera is passionate in spreading the art and knowledge of dances by Pacific islanders, particularly of her native Tahiti. That's why she formed a new group, Pua Hinano, to continue her desire of teaching the younger generation.

Pua Hinano was formed almost a month ago and is composed of one of the most diverse members with locals, Americans, Chinese, Japanese, and Koreans. They have been practicing twice a week in a place offered by one of the parents of the dancers for free.

The 35th Annual Flame Tree the cultural performances.

"The group is composed mostly of new dancers that

Arts Festival was their baptism of fire where Scalamerea and Miss Marianas Jian Joyner joining the other members of the group to entertain the weekend crowd gathered to watch

### **COMMUNITY BRIEFS**

### **CCA** board meets on April tomorrow

The Commonwealth Cancer Association's Board of Directors will be holding its regular Board of Directors meeting tomorrow, April 19, 3pm at the CCA Conference Room. Agenda includes reports from the president and program updates. All board meetings are open to the public. For more information, contact the Commonwealth Cancer Association at 682-0050 or email at ccamarianas@gmail.com. (PR)

### **Kagman schools PTSA** meeting on April 21

Kagman Elementary, Chacha Middle, and Kagman High schools are inviting all stakeholders to the next PTSA meeting scheduled for April 21, 2016 at 5pm at the Kagman Elementary School Cafeteria.

Agenda items to be discussed will focus on American Red Cross announcements and Chamorro and Carolinian immersion program. (PR)

### **AMP Visitor Center** closed on April 25

The public is advised the American Memorial Park Visitor Center will be closed on Monday, April 25, 2016, due to mandatory training for all park personnel. The Visitor Center will resume normal hours of operations on Tuesday, April 26, 2016, at 9am.

For more information on the park please visit: www. nps.gov/amme. (PR)

### **Team Faiye hot lunch fundraising on April 30**

Team Faiye, which will be

one of the groups participating in the 2016 Marianas March Against Cancer, will be having a hot lunch fundraising event on April 30, Saturday, at the 13 Fishermen Memorial Pavilion on Beach

The hot lunch is \$5 each and Team Faiye is raising funds that would be donated to the Commonwealth Cancer Association. The MMAC is set on May 13 and 14 at the Hopwood Junior High School field in Chalan Piao.

For more information, email team captain Amanda Somol at amandasomol@ gmail.com; for MMAC, email overall committee chair Geri Dela Cruz at geri. delacruz2@gmail.com call CCA at 682-0050 or visit www.ccamarianas.org. (PR)



had never performed before. I'm just passionate about teaching and sharing what I've learned since I was 3 years old in Tahiti," said Scalamera.

"I'm also teaching fourth and fifth graders at the Saipan International School as they prepare for their own show on April 29," she added.

Scalamera arrived on Saipan in 1990. She first worked as a dinner cultural show dancer at the Hyatt Regency Saipan. She also taught others free of charge with some of her students forming their own groups that have been per-

forming in various hotels on the island.

"I just love to dance and spread what I've been doing to the community. I want to share what I learned from my relatives when I was still little in Tahiti," said Scalamera, whose uncle and aunt have their own dance groups performing in Guam.

The Pua Hinano will next perform at the Taste of the Marianas, to be held in the four Saturdays of May.

Last Friday's Flame Tree Arts Festival also had Guam High School football coach Pua Hinano dance director Irma Scalamera performs a traditional Tahitian dance in last Friday's 35th Annual Flame Tree Arts Festival at the Civic Center in Susupe.

Jacob Dowdell giving a brief talk about helping spread the sport in the CNMI. He held a one-day clinic last Saturday at Mt. Carmel School in cooperation with Commonwealth Football League Association president John Blanco.

"The CNMI has good athletes that only need further training and hopefully someday one of them can get the chance to play in an NCAA Division I football team. I'm here with my players and a football trainer to assist our sister island," said Dowdell.

He said that seven Guam high school players have already earned college-level football scholarships, one of which is former GHS safety and linebacker Trip Chauret, who signed a letter of intent to play this season with FCS team Jacksonville State University.

Marianas Counseling Services counselor Chris Sablan also discussed the dangers of illegal substance abuse that includes "ice" or crystal methamphetamine.

# **HELP WANTED**

# UNDERWRITER/ **ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE**

PERSONAL LINES

### Qualifications:

- Work experience is a plus.
- Accounting/Marketing graduate is a plus.
- Marketing and sales experience is a plus.
- Willing to undergo further training as required.
- Excellent communications skills.
- Computer literate. Good typing skills. Team Player.

Benefits Include: Sick leave, paid vacation, holiday pay, employee discounts, medical, dental and group life insurance (after probationary period). Profit Sharing Plan – US & CNMI residents (after one year).

Please apply in person. No phone calls please. Submit resume/application to Moylan's Insurance Office, Beach Road Garapan, Saipan. Or email: ctenorio@moylans.net Deadline for all submissions: Until Filled.



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Champion Finance is looking for Dynamic individuals who would like to be a part of our team for the following post.

### **Loan / Financial Manager**

### **Duties:**

- · Review loan agreements to ensure that they are complete and accurate according to policy.
- Approve, reject, or coordinate the approval or rejection of lines of credit or commercial, real estate, or personal loans.
- Analyze applicants' financial status, credit, and property evaluations to determine feasibility of granting loans.
- Review collection reports to determine the status of collections and the amounts of outstanding balances. Set credit policies, credit lines, procedures and standards in conjunction with senior managers.
- Oversee the flow of cash or financial instruments.
- Prepare financial or regulatory reports required by laws, regulations, or boardsof directors. Develop or analyze information to assess the current or future financial status of firms.
- Evaluate financial reporting systems, accounting or collection procedures, or investment activities and make recommendations for changes to procedures, operating systems, budgets or other financial control functions.
- Establish procedures for custody or control of assets, records, loan collateral, or securities to ensure safekeeping.
- Plan, direct, and coordinate risk and insurance programs of establishments to control risks and losses

### **Education/Experience:**

Bachelor's Degree in Finance, Business Administration or Accounting and 2 years' experience in Finance will be a plus. Salary will be discussed upon interview.

> Interested candidates are requested to submit their resumes or pick up an employment application at Champion Finance, 3rd floor, Marianas Business Plaza, Suite 316-B or email championfinancecnmi@gmail.com

#### By JON PEREZ

REPORTER

Claudia Adriano's story began on Saipan, where she learned the value of hard work and perseverance from her mother, Margaret Castro Camacho.

She excelled both in academics, being a member of Marianas High School's National Honor Society, and in extra curricular activities as she was elected president of MHS' student council.

Adriano is also into sports as a Saipan Swim Club member where she represented the CNMI in the 1991 Pa-

# NMI-born Adriano is GM of Hyatt House

cific Games in Papua New Guinea. Her best time also earned her an invitation to compete in the Hawaii National Kamaka'eha Swimming Tournament where she finished in the top 10.

After high school, she studied and graduated at Menlo College in Atherton, California with a Business Management major and concentration on the field of International Business Management in 2001.

She even trained and became a model for more than

three years for John Robert Powers, which called for her to regularly travel to Los Angeles and New York.

Flash-forward to 2016, Adriano was recently named the Adriano general manager of Hyatt House in New Orleans in Louisiana—a 194-room

downtown area.

It is a fitting 10th anniversary gift to a person who rose from the ranks working

hotel in Poydras Street in the



for a Fortune 500 company. She began working for Hyatt on April 16, 2006 at the Hyatt Regency Scottsdale Resort & Spa at Gainey Ranch in Arizona.

From there, she moved to Washington State to work at the Hyatt

at Olive 8 in Seattle and then Washington and at the Hyatt Regency in Bellevue. She transferred to Hyatt Regency in New Orleans where she worked under the guidance of hotel GM Michael O. Smith.

The job, however, does not come without any challenges. "It's not easy being a woman in the corporate world, that's an unspoken rule," said Adriano in an email to Saipan Tribune.

"The environment is unforgiving and requires endless hours of dedication. Learning how to manage the workforce is the challenge that you face everyday," she added.

Adriano first worked as executive housekeeper for almost two years at the Hyatt Regency-New Orleans and

was promoted to assistant director of rooms. "We did not have a director of rooms for seven months giving me the opportunity to learn directly under Smith."

Smith is considered to be a legend among the GMs of Hyatt hotels. Being the GM of Hyatt-New Orleans, Smith oversees 200,000 square feet of meeting space and 1,193

"I am grateful to have a wonderful mentor that kept a watchful eye for me to be able to learn things that helped me in my career," said Adriano. "[Smith] helped me get exposed in a high caliber environment that has accommodated numerous huge events."

Hyatt-New Orleans was the headquarters of the 2013 Super Bowl, the NCAA Final Four in 2012, the United Negro Foundation, the Make It Right Foundation of Hollywood actor Brad Pitt, and the Hyatt's National Sales Forum.

accomplishments "My won't be possible without my mother's strong guidance and influence. She pushed me to move through, no matter what I face. She is my rock and became my anchor to help me get through the difficult moments in my life. I'm forever grateful to have a strong mother and lifetime mentor like her."

### Revocation of supervised release sought against probationer found playing video poker

Roque Sablan Norita, a man on federal probation who was slapped with a nine-month prison term in January 2015 for repeatedly using methamphetamine or "ice," was allegedly seen playing a video poker machine in violation of his probation condition.

The U.S. Probation has reguested the U.S. District Court for the NMI to issue summons to Norita to appear at a hearing and explain why his supervised release should not be revoked.

The court granted the U.S. Probation's request and set the initial/revocation hearing for today, Monday, at 10am.

According to U.S. Probation Officer Gregory F. Arriola, among the conditions for Norita's supervised release is for him to refrain from the use of poker machines or any form of gambling device and refrain from entering any gambling establishments.

Arriola said that last Feb. 19, U.S. Probation Officer Assistant Juanette David-Atalig received information that Norita was seen playing poker in a gambling establishment located near Middle Road.

Arriola said he and David-Atalig conducted a field visit and saw Norita playing on a video poker machine.

Arriola said they called Norita outside the establishment and reminded that he was prohibited from entering any gambling establishments.

Norita was instructed to immediately leave the establishment and report to the U.S. Probation Office on Feb. 22, 2016.

Arriola said Norita left the place with a defendant formerly supervised by the U.S. Probation Office.

Arriola said although Norita's companion was acquitted, he was known to have substance abuse issues while being supervised.

At the Feb. 22 non-compliance meeting, Norita was admonished for failing to follow the court ordered conditions.

He was also counseled about associating with the individual with a known substance abuse history.

Arriola said Norita apologized for his actions.

Arriola said Norita was subjected to a drug test and tested negative for use of illegal drugs.

In January 2015, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona revoked Norita's supervised release for admitting to the allegations that he continued using "ice" and failed to report for drug testing.

Upon release from prison, he was placed on 62 months of supervised release.

In August 2013, Norita admitted to the allegations that he used "ice" again and apologized to the court, prosecution, and U.S. Probation Office.

Manglona then denied the U.S. Probation's Office petition to revoke Norita's probation. She, however, warned the defendant that he would be subject to immediate detention should he violate his supervised release conditions again.

In July 2010, the federal court slapped Norita with a 30-month jail term for his conviction of trafficking methamphetamine or "ice" and illegal possession of guns.

Norita was placed on six years of supervised release after completing his sentence. He began his supervised release on Nov. 21, 2011. *(Ferdie de la Torre)* 



### **INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-16-006**

### SR-1 LIFT STATION REHABILITATION PROJECT (S-11-015)

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the rehabilitation and upgrade of SR-I Sewer Lift Station in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The project consists, in general of the rehabilitation and upgrade of SR-I Sewer Lift Station.

The work shall be done not to disrupt the daily operation of the sewer discharge. The work includes rehabilitation of the wet well, remove existing pumps and appurtenances and install new pumps, guide rails, control panel, valves, replacement of pipes and fittings, temporary wastewater bypass system, installation of new fence and gate, and other related work.

 $This project is funded by a grant from the {\it United Sates of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)}. The award of this project is a constant of the {\it United Sates of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)}. The award of this project is a constant of the {\it United Sates of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)}. The award of this project is a constant of the {\it United Sates of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)}. The award of this project is a constant of the {\it United Sates of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)}. The award of this project is a constant of the {\it United Sates of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)}. The award of this project is a constant of the {\it United Sates of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)}. The award of this project is a constant of {\it USEPA} and {\it USEPA} are also as a constant of {\it USEPA} and {\it USEPA} are also as a constant of {\it USEPA} are also as a constant$ contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **270 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on April 14, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST) at the CUC Main Conference Room,

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-16-006, SR-1 Lift Station Rehabilitation Project", to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on May 03, 2016, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission

or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commis-The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on April 18, 2016 to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Birhen Martinez, CUC Water/Wastewater Senior Engineer - via email birhen.martinez@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government.

/s/ GARY CAMACHO

/s/ MANNY B. SABLAN



### Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director





### **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-16-007**

### **LEASE OF OFFICE SPACE** (CUC ROTA)

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from individuals or firms for the lease of office space for CUC Administration and Operation in

The proposed office space must conform to American Disabilities Act (ADA), OSHA and CNMI Zoning regulation.

The RFP package may be obtained at the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section (Saipan, Tinian or Rota), by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$20.00 for one RFP package set. The RFP package will be provided in a CD or emailed to the registered Proponents email ID. Prospective Proposers for this RFP must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division to be considered.

pre-proposal conference is scheduled for 2:00 PM (ChST) on April 15, 2016 at the CUC Rota Administration Office in Sinapalo Village, Rota.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC RFP -16-007, Lease of Office Space (CUC Rota)" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on May 10, 2016.

Proponents are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Proponent due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Proponent's preparation of a proposal under the contract.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible Proponents for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of, and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Proponents shall be accorded fair and equal treatment. There shall be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing proposers. All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes which will become the obligation of the Proponent awarded a contract.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This request and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The Proponent awarded a contract shall comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on April 18, 2016 to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org.

> /s/ GARY CAMACHO Acting Executive Director

/s/ MANNY B. SABLAN **Purchasing Officer** 

# SIS hails NJHS and NHS inductees

# Hotels lining up as major sponsors of Green Gala

Showing their support for conserving the islands' natural resources, several hotels on Saipan recently made donations ranging between \$1,000 and \$3,000 to the Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance.

These donations were made as part of MINA's annual fundraising event, the Green Gala, which will be held on Friday, May 27, 2016. Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, Coral Ocean Point Resort Club, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Kanoa Resort, and Pacific Islands Club are among this year's major sponsors of MINA's Green Gala.

The leading conservation nonprofit organization in the Commonwealth, MINA has worked to implement various conservation projects, including the Plastic Bag Challenge, the Schools for Environmental Conservation workshops, the Marine Debris Prevention program, Tasi Watch Program, the Adopt-A-Bin Project, and Managaha Pride Campaign.

In order to continue its efforts to preserve and protect the CNMI's environment and

biodiversity, MINA is seeking the community's participation in the Green Gala event. The organization is supported by project grants and from generous contributions from local businesses and community members.

In addition to lively entertainment, dinner and a variety of beverages, the Green Gala will feature highlights from MINA's projects, a silent auction, and many other activities that promise a memorable evening to celebrate over 10 years of working with island communities for conservation.

As the last Green Gala was sold out, organizers are encouraging those who plan to attend to buy their tickets early.

Tickets for the Green Gala event can be purchased at the MINA Office in Gualo Rai or from any of the volunteer Board members.

To become a sponsor of the Green Gala, please contact Brooke Nevitt at 233-REEF (7333), or email minaout-reach@gmail.com. (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Saipan International School inducted new members of the National Honor Society and National Junior Honor Society during an induction ceremony last April 14 Pacific Islands Club Saipan's Charley's Cabaret.

Saipan International School held its National Honor Society and National Junior Honor Society induction ceremony on April 14, 2016, in Charley's Cabaret at the Pacific Islands Club Saipan.

The National Honor Society and National Junior Honor Society are the nation's premier organizations established to recognize outstanding high school and middle level students.

NHS and NJHS have very stringent membership requirements. To be considered, students must have at least 3.7 GPA and must go through a rigorous selection process. The candidates are evaluated on the

basis of character, leadership, and service to the school and the community, and a five-member faculty council decides the admission of the candidates.

Parents, guests, and teachers assembled at the NJHS and NHS induction ceremony to celebrate and welcome new members. Lighting of the white candle marked the beginning of the ceremony.

Led by formally dressed NHS and NJHS members, 13 NJHS and 12 NHS inductees entered the theater, received the candles, recited the pledges, and joined the honor societies.

Headmaster Tim Bray welcomed the guests and spoke

briefly about the honor societies, adviser Ingur Lee spoke about the five ideals of the NHS and presented the candidates, and members welcomed the new members into the societies by passing the candle lights to them and congratulating them. Warm reception by the members and guests was the focal point of the one-hour program.

For school year 2015-16, Saipan International School added Matthew Berline, Julianne Florencondia-Hall, Cevina Hwang, Christina Kim, Maria Gregoire, Steven W. Goodwin, Shea Hartig, Sally Y. Lai, Sang Yoon Lee, Min Ju Kang, Annabelle Sablan, Angelina G. Villagomez, and Chloe Kosack-Albuen to NJHS and Ye Dam Huh, Gio Hur, Hyeong Chang Im, Kee Hoon Jang, Hyun Ji Kim, Jiye Lim, Luther Lizama, Timothy Park, Yeon Soo Park, Andrea Jean Ranjo, Alexandra Lee-Sang, and Haram Lee to NHS.

To maintain membership, the new members must maintain the high standards and participate in a service project. For the past years, NJHS and NHS members of SIS have adopted a year-long schoolwide mentoring program to assist elementary and middle school students. (PR)



## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



### INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-16-010

### TINIAN WATER SYSTEM PRESSURE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the installation of pressure reducing stations and installation of 10-in PVC Waterline Project in Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This work consists of the installation of approximately 1400 linear feet of 10-inch PVC water line complete with necessary valves and fittings, the relocation and replacement of two existing pressure reducing valves (PRV's), the installation of a new PRV, and several reconfigurations of the existing water system.

 $CUC\ requires\ the\ Project\ to\ be\ completed\ in\ \underline{\textbf{240\ calendar\ days}}\ from\ date\ of\ award\ of\ contract.$ 

 $This project is funded by a grant from the \ United Sates of Environmental \ Protection \ Agency \ (USEPA). \ The \ award \ of this project is contingent upon receipt of the \ approval for \ project \ award \ from \ USEPA.$ 

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on April 21, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST) at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.15, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) Original and Five (5) Hard Copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-16-010, Tinian Water System Pressure Improvements Project" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on May 12, 2016, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

 $Bidders\ are\ required\ to\ comply\ with\ all\ CNMI\ and\ applicable\ Federal\ Laws.\ This\ bid\ and\ the\ ensuing\ contract\ shall\ be\ executed\ pursuant\ to\ the\ CUC\ Procurement\ Regulations.$ 

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on April 22, 2016 to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Marcela Tenorio, CUC P&S, Administrative Support Assistant – marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

/s/ GARY CAMACHO Acting Executive Director /s/ MANNY B. SABLAN Purchasing Officer



## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



### INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-16-012

### SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF POWER DISTRIBUTION ANNUAL MATERIALS

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified vendors for the Supply and Delivery of Power Distribution Annual Materials for Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The IFB package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$80.00 for one IFB package set.

CUC may award a contract to more than one firm for the materials, based on bids for "Commodity Groups".

One (1) Original Hard Copy must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-16-012, Supply & Delivery of Power Distribution Annual Materials, Saipan, CNMI" to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan MP 96950, no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on May 19, 2016, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. A copy of the entire submission is also required to be sent by email to CUC Procurement & Supply Division via email address cucprocurement@cucgov.org or alternately include a CD with the copy of the submission.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract. Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. All responses to this Invitation for Bids should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the bidder, awarded a contract.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. The award of a contract(s) is contingent upon the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission and the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, Board of Director's approval. The contract(s) will not be executed by CUC until such approval is provided.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on May 2, 2016 to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Joseph Crisostimo, CUC Power Division, Purchasing Technician via email joseph.crisostimo@cucgov.org

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

/s/ GARY CAMACHO Acting Executive Director /s/ MANNY B. SABLAN Purchasing Officer 10 MONDAY, APRIL 18, 2016 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# **Opinion**



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Pacific Islands News Association

### **EDITORIAL**

# A bloody turn in Nagorno-Karabakh bodes ill

rmenia and Azerbaijan forces began fighting again Saturday over a small area in the South Caucasus called Nagorno-Karabakh, a war suspended but not ended in 1994.

At that point the Russians turned up the heat on the two former republics of the Soviet Union to achieve an end to the hostilities after a flood of refugees had been created and an estimated 30,000 may have died.

The basic problem between Armenia and Azerbaijan is that the former is Christian and the latter, Shiite Muslim. Nagorno-Karabakh, the disputed area, is officially part of Azerbaijan but is inhabited largely by Christian Armenians. With 1,700 square miles and a population of less than 150,000, a conflict over it could be left to the parties to it to stew in their own juices — except for several other facts.

One of these is that the Azerbaijanis are backed by neighboring Turkey, a NATO ally of the United States. The Armenians are more or less backed by the Russians. In addition, there are many Americans of Armenian origin who are politically active in the United States. There are already dead soldiers on both sides.

A valid question is why these two countries have begun fighting again over an old issue after 22 years of relative peace between them. To some degree it may be that war becomes more attractive in that part of the world in the spring. A second reason may be that the fighting is supply-driven. Azerbaijan has oil wealth and has recently bought some \$4 billion in new arms from Russia. The Armenian and Azeri armies are comparable in size but Azerbaijan has a much larger defense budget.

The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, through its so-called Minsk group, has had some success in the past in maintaining dialogue and peace between the two countries. It, Russia and Turkey should be active again in not letting the latest conflict continue or to escalate. Nobody, including the United States, needs trouble in the Caucasus.

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### In rust we trust

t is the last day to file taxes before one is levied a late filing fee. It is said that there are two things in life that are certain, death and taxes. I add a third, rust. In the humidity of island weather, though our forests be dry, the incidence of rust is taken for granted.

At my current dwelling, the rust comes with the territory. A workman replaced a non-functioning bathroom shower with a brand new stainless steel one, only to show rust a couple of weeks later.

With China's vaunted "stainless steel" from Shanghai and Shenzhen that are definitely less than stainless and admittedly not steel, many islanders depend on a hardware store famous for supposed low prices but more noted for what it promise than what it delivers.

A steel brush that does not stay "steel" long is a standard at my house. To avoid leaving the cutleries and the waterspouts from turning permanently brown, I steel brush the brown into oblivion as soon as it appears. Even my expensive German knife shows brown spots that get occasional scrubbing.

Which is to say that the care of the household takes some doing when dwellers decide that appearance is a serious ingredient to their dwelling, even if getting rusty is taken for granted, expected to blend with the terrain.

The physiology of rust is manageable, its sociology and psychology take some doing.

Take the sociology of rusty social strata left over from Hispanic influence of Torrens titles for the Chamorro, and ancient land usage of the Refaluwasch. Land ownership has become a sore point among relatives as the titling of the same pits siblings against sibling; invariably the jockeying position takes a mean toll. My clergy Dad was clear given the history of his sibling families' discord. "The only land you will inherit from me is whatever soil sticks on the sole of my shoe," he declared. We totally understood.

The Refaluwasch on Saipan has a deep appreciation of ancient traditions; the Rematau Band just recently reconstituted itself to encourage elders and the young to engage in ordinary island music, traditional, and contemporary. That has social implications on the pecking order of the communal decision-making process, matrilineal in the side of proprietary (land is handed down from the mother), but patrilineal when the men stand up to announce a decision.

Still, social elitism resides in the chamorii and the male among the Refaluwasch, the female undeniable presence on last month's women's month, notwithstanding. But that is mild compared to the entrenched sense of Aryan superiority, chronicled and fought for by Hitler and the Germans in WWII, still prevalent in today's structures.

The psychology of rusty mindsets is everywhere. When Co-

### By JAIME VERGARA

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com. All views expressed by the author are his/her

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own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.

pernicus suggested that the Earth was not the center of the universe, he was ignored but when Galileo claimed that the Earth revolved around the Sun, he had to recant lest be excommunicated. Isaac Newton gave the whole thing a patina of mathematical respectability but it took Charles Darwin to suggest the developmental nature of organic evolution, picked up by Friedrich Nietzsche's assault on the meaninglessness of theistic metaphors, and the celebration of secularity in my time with Harvey Cox.

Medieval Christendom insisted that the individual needed salvation on Augustinian grounds that all were born faulty (the Scriptures say so, the ecclesiastic claims), and though it remained on the tail end of priorities, the democratic ethos that leaked into the rustiness could not rid of the marks.

Part of rustiness comes in the telling that is centrally focused on the work of males, not that the female of the specie's minds had not crossed the matter, but the telling is virtually patriarchal. We leave it to feminists to straighten out the deficiency of our telling and fill in gaps.

Male domination continues and that is why thinking America will push a woman to the White House. In my small circle of influence, I push for Hillary because it is time we had a woman, she wants the job, and she is qualified for the job!

An obvious rust is the idolatry of youth. Marketers zero in on millennials with their addiction to electronic gadgetry. Everyone else is in a supportive role. There is nothing more disconcerting than an elderly grandma trying to fit into a fashionably tight Levi while fidgeting with her cellphone.

Baggy pants way below the waistline and unbuttoned loose polo shirt over a faded beige shirt with a cap turned to the back was male attire for a while, a rappers' look. The female went for the rugged tattered jeans showing "rips" in the knee and thigh. (My sister once bought a nice pair of jeans for her daughter only to find it sheared and stripped in the living room. Her gasp was classic!)

Yes, we can trust rust in our surroundings. It is easy to slide into the color of brown. Having them, like all of life, remains a choice. We can also wipe them though the telltale mark on my restroom floor is telling.

Now, about the termites...

### **EDITORIAL POLICY**

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit sub-

missions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

# Disastrous exodus of investments

f there's a lifetime lesson we've learned from the old folks it's the ability to regroup when times are hardest. Call it resiliency. If our ancestors could survive the genocidal destruction of Chamorros by colonial powers so can we deal and resolve our own set of problems today.

A relevant issue is the disastrous effects of investment exodus that still holds everything down. It should be a point of critical inquiry and open discussion among so-called leadership to avoid a repeat of history.

In brief, is institutional investment still the answer or must not this require critical review to get a glimpse at its success or failure? Isn't it an issue that merits realistic review? Casino isn't the holy grail of our financial needs. So what is there to ensure improvement in the quality of life and sturdy flow of revenue for the NMI?

Definitely we can't rely on unreliable exogenous (external) investments complimenting the staples of internal negligence to move the needle of growth forward. That would be subscribing to the wisdom of a fool!

Nor am I trying to offer an overly simplistic approach to a heavy issue often mired in confusion and disorientation. But we need to confidently meet and trump our cards in planning our future together. We have to have a beginning!

I don't have any background in developmental economics but I've lived here all my life. In the process, I've seen economic growth and its decline prompting my treading the issue in search of realistic answers. What I've found isn't etched in stone but a sturdy and steady one that would carry us through over the long haul through thick and thin. The answer is in small family business.

**Small family business:** We should resolutely explore every inch of this sector for therein lies opportunities and the stability of our economic future.

Beyond multi-billion dollar global corporations in nearby Japan, there exist by the thousands small businesses in every major and midsize cities owned and run by families since after the war. These businesses have been passed on to children who in turn carry on a built-in family tradition of running them. This sector has basically

everything from eateries or restaurants to specialty shops.

The 40-plus years of trying to unravel what would work reminds me of Winston Churchill's oft-repeated comment so fitting in this case: "A riddle in a mystery wrapped inside an enigma." Herein lies our future to improve upon our quality of life including shoring up much needed revenue.

From one end of the archipelago to the next there are family businesses that started out small and gradually expanded through the years. A lot of them may have closed down over the years. But those that survived have worked extra hours most days of the week consistently and persistently slowly building and strengthening the very source of family wellbeing.

You need not engage large sums of money (loan) for a small family business. You only need to identify a specific service, research its viability, and move on from there.

It's good to approach this form of investment from a free market standpoint over technocratic sets of plans. In other words, let entrepreneurs work it out themselves over a central plan comprised of suspect experts making dictates that often miss the point.

**CDA's role:** The role of CDA becomes most important in the establishment of family business. As this sector establishes and grows, it should slowly serve as the economic backbone of the NMI moving forward. We should do it with the view of permanency where new family business startups are strengthened and passed on to the next generation.

As a community, we've attached the mind-boggling contribution we see in small family businesses. It is based on our understanding that they are friendlier, better employers and more caring in most aspects of their operations. It's a marketing tool and has access to unique ingredients that can provide lasting competitive advantage.

On several occasions, I've visited places like Rappongi or Akasaka in Tokyo, the closest to the entertainment district and Japan's center of politics. In either place you'd find small family businesses lining both sides of the street. There's a myriad of restaurants and other businesses as you explore your way around. Beyond Japan's global corporations, small

### By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.



family businesses have been and still are the backbone of Japan's economic foundation.

I feel comfortable that the head of CDA has institutional knowledge of our 40-year journey. He should ably expand and improve CDA's approach on small family business loans and broaden opportunities for our people especially in tiny island communities to move forward. And, yes, the journey of a thousand miles begins with the first step!

**Melancholy:** After listening to well-written eulogies for the late first lady Nancy Reagan, a sense of melancholy descended as to appreciate the love she's had for her husband from Day 1. More often than not, they do things together while Reagan was governor of California and president of our country.

I find her daughter's eulogy (Patti Davis) most moving in how her parents were lifetime lovers. She related of two folks sitting along the shore, heads tilted together or entwined like lovers on a lifetime date. They were two happy souls with tons of love. The only separation they probably had was the cool salty air between them.

She quoted a famous poet who fittingly described her parents' relationship: "Across the years I will walk with you, in deep green forest and shores of sand; and, when our time on earth is through, in heaven too you will have my hand." There must be the long stretch of golden sand, orange-reddish sunset, the sea that runs up the shore and reverses into eternity and an entire island unto themselves. Our gratitude to the Reagans: Nancy and Ronny.

# Daddy Donald knows best

here is no way to avoid sounding like a Trump supporter with this column. I've already been accused of going over to the dark side by defending the Donald against accusations that he wanted to imprison women who had abortions and that he cheered on a campaign manager prone to domestic violence. No matter how many times I've made fun of his hair, his fish lips, his lack of tact and the fact that Dora the Explorer has a more nuanced take on immigration than he does, people still resent the fact that I could find any redeeming qualities in the man who has been compared to Hitler (lazy thinkers,) Mussolini (a little closer, but no cigar) or Castro (they were probably confusing him with Bernie.)

And here I am again, giving props to the GOP front-whiner. Honestly, though, this has less to do with one New York City billionaire than the fact that people should not be ridiculed, criticized or even questioned about their devotion to their fathers.

Perhaps I should have saved this column for Father's Day, but the reaction I got when I posted something on Facebook about how classy, articulate, intelligent and genuinely nice Trump's kids were made me realize I should strike while the iron was hot.

On Tuesday night, CNN held a town hall with the Trump family, who instead of coming across as evil ended up resembling the Osmonds.

First off, all of Trump's children look like him. They inherited the O-shaped mouths that look as if that part of their faces stopped growing around the age of 4. This is not to say that they are unattractive. Quite the contrary. Trump's children have an amazing gene pool, with some exceptional maternal DNA, more than compensating for the Mouth.

They also seem to really like each other, even though if they were going to draw blood and act like extras in "Game of Thrones" they'd do it backstage and not in front of the vast CNN viewing audience (why yes you did detect sarcasm there, you sharp thing you.)

But what really struck me about the Donald's children was

that they genuinely seem to love their father. Some of my Facebook friends would take issue with that statement, going so far as to calling the town hall a dog-and-pony show, but I really got the impression that this family was not simply a better-educated, cleaner version of the Kardashians. Ivanka, especially, showed a profound affection and respect for Trump, and said the kind of things that aren't scripted, or at least if they are, reflect some version of the truth.

After viewing the show, I posted this on my Facebook page:

"A parent, mother or father, is best judged by the quality of their children, their character, work ethic, moral code, and the bond that unites them. Parents should be neither congratulated on, or blamed for, their sons and daughters. At least not entirely. But the way a child looks at a parent is a strong barometer of the kind of person that parent really is, even with strangers. I watched the CNN town hall tonight with Donald Trump's family. I could vote for the man reflected in his children's voices. Where is that man and when will he decide to start campaigning?"

It was intended to simply be a complimentary observation about the fact that Trump raised some great children, and that this was surprising given his campaign persona and the type of reaction he has elicited from his supporters. It was not my Good Housekeeping seal of approval of the man, much less his politics. But I did think he was entitled to some props for his obvious parenting skills.

The reaction surprised me. A number of my friends suggested that this was all a script designed to make Daddy Donald look more palatable, and do some triage on his damaged image. Others went so far as to say that Donald had nothing at all to do with his kids' accomplishments and that they were all raised by their mothers and their boarding school teachers. And then there was the reverse snobbery along the lines of, "Sure, it's easy to turn out well when your paterfamilias has paterfa-millions."

All of this got me thinking about my own father. He was a

### By CHRISTINE M. FLOWERS

Philadelphia Daily News

Christine M. Flowers is a lawyer and columnist for the Philadelphia Daily News. Readers may send her email at cflowers1961@gmail.com.



very flawed character, and a very great man. I've written in the past that he had a difficult childhood, clawed his way to an education and professional glory, participated in the history of the civil rights movement in Mississippi, and was named a "legend of the Philadelphia Bar" after his premature death at 43. I am as proud of him as Ivanka is of her father.

And yet I'm fully aware that Ted Flowers had demons, and troubles, and was far from perfect. I am quite sure that Trump's children are clear-eyed about him as well, and while they might forgive, they do not entirely forget.

But no one should take a child to task, even an adult one, for admiring the man who gave her opportunity, guidance, love and moxie. I'm sure Chelsea Clinton would agree.

I won't be voting for Trump. But I resent those who think that because they hate the man, so should his children. I also resent the attitude that presumes the rich are not as real as the rest of us.

Poverty can sometimes create character, but there are more than enough poor people out there with decrepit souls. Wealth can sometimes debase character, but there are some who are as virtuous as they are affluent. The Bernification of our public discourse, this ridiculous class warfare, is as bad as the elitism of the Brie and Chablis crowd.

This father may not be presidential material but it seems that, at least for Eric, Don Jr., Ivanka, Tiffany and Baron, he actually does know best.

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# The Weather

#### 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian



with isolated light showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.

**▲ 86° ₹75°** 



Partly cloudy with a slight chance of light showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.

**▲ 87° ▼ 75°** 



Partly cloudy with a slight chance of light showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.

**▲** 88° **▼** 75°



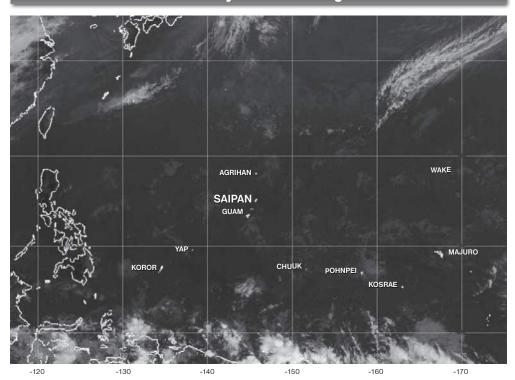
Partly cloudy with a slight chance of light showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.

**▲ 88° ▼75°** 

Partly cloudy with a slight chance of light showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.

**▲** 88° **₹75°** 

#### Yesterday's Satellite Image



### PICTURE TIME: 12:31 PM, SUNDAY, APRIL 17, 2016

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A cold front curves west-southwestward from 25N162E to 23N152E then continues as a shear line to beyond 25N at 142E. Cloudiness and scattered showers are found along and up to 250 miles north of this boundary. Low-level convergence is generating scattered showers south of Koror within 70 miles of 1N132E and near Pohnpei within 100 miles of 7N160E.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia									
Guam And Rota	Mostly Sunny	<b>▲</b> 87	₹78						
Palau	Partly Cloudy	<b>A</b> 90	<b>▼</b> 78						
Yap	Showers	<b>▲</b> 91	<b>▼</b> 78						
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	<b>▲</b> 87	₹79						
Pohnpei	Showers	<b>▲</b> 87	<b>▼</b> 79						
Kosrae	Partly Cloudy	<b>▲</b> 85	₩81						
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	<b>▲</b> 85	₹79						

Majuro	Partly Cloudy	<b>▲</b> 85	▼79							
Around the Globe										
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	<b>▲</b> 71	▼59							
Beijing	Mostly Cloudy	<b>▲</b> 65	₩46							
Hong Kong	Showers	<b>▲</b> 75	₩71							
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	<b>▲</b> 80	<b>▼</b> 69							
London	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 57	₩43							
Los Angeles	Sunny	<b>▲</b> 85	₹59							
Manila	Mostly Sunny	<b>A</b> 96	₹79							
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	<b>▲</b> 81	<b>▼</b> 62							
Miami	Partly Cloudy	<u></u> 81	₩67							
New York	Sunny	<b>A</b> 78	₹56							
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	<b>▲</b> 68	▼ 47							
Paris	Sunny	<b>▲</b> 62	₩45							
Pusan	Sunny	<b>▲</b> 67	₹48							
Rome	Sunny	<b>≜</b> 83	₹56							
Salem	Mostly Sunny	<u></u> 85	₹53							
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	<b>A</b> 74	₹54							
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	<b>▲</b> 67	₹42							
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	<b>▲</b> 65	₩49							
Washington, DC	Sunny	<b>≜</b> 83	▼59							



Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

■ Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone ■\*11 on any IT&E cellular phone

Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

	Tides												
Saipan Harbo	r												
12:06 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.4 Feet										
6:41 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet										
1:02 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.7 Feet										
6:35 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet										

Sunrise/Sunset									
6:32 PM									
6:32 PM									
6:32 PM									
6:32 PM									
6:33 PM									

Moonrise/Moonset										
Today	3:29 PM	3:20 AM								
Tuesday	4:16 PM	4:00 AM								
Wednesday	5:03 PM	4:38 AM								
Thursday	5:50 PM	5:16 AM								
Friday	6:37 PM	5:55 AM								

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### FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MARCH 1, 2016

		AILIU	ILLO		
SAIPAN-0	GUAM (GU	M)		GUAM (G	UM)-SAI
UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA2923	2:45an
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily	UA2925	7:15an
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota	UA2921	12:10pn
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6	UA2920	12:10pn
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily	UA2927	4:45pn
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily	UA2929	8:30pn
		-	•		•

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP) 1, 4, 5, 7 1:30pm 2:05pm

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM) UA2921 2:35pm 3:10pm 1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT) **DL297** 4:20pm 7:10pm Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN) OZ626 2:10am 6:00am 07626 2:50am 6:40am 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7 OZ628 3:50am 7:40am Daily 7C3403 4:35am 8:30am Daily 7C3401 Daily 4:30pm 8:25pm

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS) 07608 3:10am 6:20am 4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG) 3U8648 6:10am 8:40am 1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK) MU764 1:30am 5:30am 3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN) 3U8646 4:20am 7:30am 2.6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL) OZ626/701 2:10am 11:15am 1 via ICN 2:50am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN OZ626/701 11:15am UA2924/191 4:15am 9:00am 3, 6 via GUM UA2924/PR111 4:15am 9:20am Daily via GUM UA2922/183 8:40am 9:30pm 2, 5 via GUM UA2922/183 8:40am 9:50pm 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM UA2922/193 8:40am 11:10pm 2, 5 via GUM-ROR UA2921/183 1:30pm 9:30pm 5 via Rota-GUM UA2921/183 1:30pm 9:50pm 1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM UA2921/193 1:30pm 11:10pm 5 via Rota-GUM UA2920/183 2:20pm 9:30pm 2 via GUM UA2920/183 2:20pm 9:50pm 3, 6 via GUM UA2920/193 2:20pm 11:10pm 2 via GUM-ROR UA2928/183 6:05pm 9:30pm 2. 5 via GUM UA2928/183 6:05pm 9:50pm 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM UA2928/193 6:05pm 11:10pm 2, 5 via GUM UA2926/191 1. 6 via GUM 9:50pm 7:20am+1

9:00am+1

3, 6 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG) OZ626/721 2:10am 11:50am 1 via ICN OZ626/721 2:50am 11:50am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN 3:50am OZ628/721 12:50am Daily via ICN 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM UA2922/159 8:40am 10:35pm UA2921/159 10:35pm 1, 5 via Rota-GUM 1:30pm UA2920/159 2:20pm 10:35pm 3, 6 via GUM

9:50pm

UA2926/191

**ARRIVALS** 3:35am Daily 8:05am Daily ım 1:00pm 1, 4, 5, 7 1:50pm 2, 3, 6 via Rota 5:35pm m Daily 9:20pm Daily

**GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)** UA2920 12:10pm 12:45pm 2, 3, 6

**ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN** UA2920 1:15pm 1:50pm 2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN 10:35am 3:10pm

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN 7C3402 10:10am 3:30pm Daily 07625 7:40pm 1:00am+1 OZ625 8:20pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 OZ627 9:30pm 2:50am+1 Daily

10:10pm 3:30am+1

9:00pm 1:50am+1 3, 6

Daily

Daily

**BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN** 

7C3404

OZ607

**SHANGHAI** (PVG)-SAIPAN 10:40pm 5:00am+1 3, 4, 6, 7

**BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN** MU763 4:30pm 12:30am+1 2, 4, 6

**GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN** 3U8645 7:40pm 3:00am+1 1,5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN UA190/2927 2, 6, 7 via GUM 9:55am 5:35pm UA190/2929 9:55am 9:20pm 2 6 7 via GUM UA190/2927 10:00am 5:35pm 3 via GUM UA190/2929 10:00am 9:20pm 3 via GUM OZ702/625 7 via ICN 12:30pm 1:00am+1 OZ702/625 12:30pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN OZ702/627 12:30pm 2:50am+1 Daily via ICN PR110/UA2925 10:05pm Daily via GUM 8:05am+1 UA192/2925 10:20pm 8:05am+1 2, 5 via GUM-Rota UA192/2920 10:20pm 1:50pm+1 2, 5 via GUM-Rota UA192/2927 10:20pm 5:35pm+1 2. 5 via GUM-Rota UA192/2929 10:20pm 9:20pm+1 2, 5 via GUM-Rota UA184/2925 10:55pm 8:05am+1 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM UA184/2921 10:55pm 1:00pm+1 3. 4. 6. 7 via GUM UA184/2920 10:55pm 1:50pm+1 1 via GUM-Rota UA184/2927 10:55pm 5:35pm+1 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM UA184/2929 9:20pm+1 10:55pm 1. 3. 4. 6. 7 via GUM

11:59pm

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN OZ722/625 1:15pm 1:00am+1 7 via ICN OZ722/625 1:15pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN OZ724/627 2:20pm 2:50am+1 Daily via ICN UA116/2925 8:05am+1 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM 10:55pm UA116/2921 10:55pm 1:00pm+1 3, 6 via GUM UA116/2920 10:55pm 1:50pm+1 1, 5 via GUM-Rota UA116/2927 10:55pm 5:35pm+1 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM UA116/2929 10:55pm 9:20pm+1 1. 3. 5. 6 via GUM

8:05am+1

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11:59pm 5:35pm+1

11:59pm 9:20pm+1

2, 5 via GUM

2.5 via GUM

2, 5 via GUM

2, 5 via GUM-Rota

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines: MU: China Eastern: UA: United Airlines: DL: Delta Airlines: OZ: Asiana: 7C: Jeiu AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure: ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

UA184/2925

UA184/2920

UA184/2927

UA184/2929

OTAN MANUANAO ANO												
TINIAN 1	O SAIPA	N	SAIPAN	TO TINIA	N	SAIPAN TO ROTA						
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY				
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue,	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily	7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,				
		Wed, Thu,	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily			Wed, Thu,				
		Fri, Sat	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily			Fri, Sat				
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily	4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,				
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily			Wed, Thu,				
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily	12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily			Fri, Sat				
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily	<b>ROTA TO</b>	SAIPAN					
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL					
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily			FREQUENCY Man Tues				
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily	8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,				
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily			Wed, Thu,				
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily	4.4EDM	E.4EDM	Fri, Sat				
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily				4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,				
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily						Wed, Thu,				
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily						Fri, Sat				

# Police cadets get crash course on criminal law

The Office of the Attornev General has teamed up with the Department of Public Safety to deliver courses on criminal law designed for the 21st cycle police academy.

The classes are taught by assistant attorneys general from the civil and criminal division and held at the Department of Public Safety headquarters in Susupe. Classes began on March 28 and will conclude on May 14.

Assistant attorney general Betsy Weintraub states, "I've enjoyed teaching Intro to Criminal Law this past week because the cadets are so enthusiastic and excited to learn. This is a great opportunity for prosecutors to get to know the future officers and vice verse. The next six weeks will be intense for both the instructors and the students because we have a lot of lessons packed in to the curriculum, but hopefully everyone will work together to make it a success."

Some of the course curriculum include, introduction to criminal justice, report writing, arrests, search and seizure, the exclusionary rule, working with witnesses and victims, interrogations and waiver of rights, stages of the judicial process, the juvenile justice act, and traffic safety law.

The set of courses are intended to be both demonstrative and interactive. Attorney General Edward Manibusan said, "we are grateful to have been given this opportunity to lend our expertise to the dedicated

Assistant attorney general Betsy Weintraub taught cadets of the Department of Public Safety's 21st cycle police academy the fundamentals of criminal law. The lessons started last March 28 and will conclude on May 14.

and hardworking 21st cycle police cadets."

The AG continues, "as an officer of the law, it is expected that one must learn the legal process of the criminal justice system. Furthermore, understanding the law is one of the most fundamental attributes to becoming a police officer."

Manibusan concludes by stating, "I wish the men and women of the 21st cycle the best of luck and success."



## FOR 20TH ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF CLASSIC Hyatt gets round-trip first-class airline tickets

Hyatt Regency Saipan was presented with two round-trip first-class tickets to either Asia or Europe by Saipan Travel Inc. for the 20th Annual Hyatt Regency Saipan Charity Golf Classic tournament.

The round-trip tickets from Saipan Travel will be a prize for a lucky raffle ticket winner at the dinner banquet poolside after the tournament that evening. Golfers are encouraged to purchase raffle tickets in the amount of \$1, \$5, and \$10.

With generous donations from event sponsors, Hyatt Regency has an array of prizes from designer handbags to round-trip tickets to Asia and Europe.

All proceeds will go to the

event's primary beneficiary. the Make-A-Wish Foundation, aiding them in their mission to grant wishes to children with life-threatening diseases and the Northern Marianas Trades Institute as a secondary beneficiary as they continue in their mission to develop and train essential trade skills to enhance our community.

"On behalf of Hyatt Regency Saipan and the 20th Annual Charity Golf Classic committee, we are thankful for the valuable partnership with Saipan Travel Inc. Through this joint effort we are giving back to our island community that has supported us for many years," states Hyatt Regency

general mnager, Nick K. Nishikawa.

Early Bird registration for the 20th Annual Hyatt Regency Saipan Charity Golf Classic tournament is open until today, April 18, at 4pm for a rate of \$100 per golfer. Registered golfers for the upcoming 20th Annual Charity Golf Classic tournament qualify for a special practice rate of \$35 per golfer at Laolao Bay Golf and Resort commencing April 11, 2016 until tournament day.

The 20th Annual Charity Golf Classic will be held at the Laolao Bay Golf and Resort west course. For more information, contact 234-1234 ext. 26. **(PR)** 

### FOR NMC FOUNDATION GOLF TOURNAMENT

Pacifica Insurance donates \$5K hole-in-one prize



Shirley Sablan, Pacifica Insurance general manager, far right, together with Pacifica Insurance staff and Northern Marianas College interim president David Attao, far left, and NMC Foundation's James Glenn and Mary Tenorio, pose with the \$5,000 hole-in-one donation for this year's 13th Annual NMC Foundation Golf Tournament.

In its ongoing efforts to support CNMI students and their educational goals, Pacifica Insurance recently presented a \$5,000 hole-in-one prize for the upcoming 13th Annual NMC Foundation Open golf tournament scheduled for April 30, 2016.

The first lucky golfer who makes a hole-in-one at the Laolao Bay Golf and Resort's hole No. 3 at the west course will win the \$5,000 prize.

"We are proud of the longstanding partnership that our company has with the Northern Marianas College," said Shirley Sablan, general manager of Pacifica Insurance.

"We will continue to support the College and its efforts to advance higher education. I would like to also encourage other businesses in the community to donate to the NMC Foundation."

The NMC Foundation is composed of individuals who are dedicated and committed to raising funds for the College's programs and services. The golf tournament is the organization's main fundraising

"Pacifica Insurance's conthroughout the years reflects the company's commitment to providing educational oppor-

tunities for CNMI students," said NMC Foundation president May Ayuyu.

The tournament will be held at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort (west course) and will have six separate flight categories: Championship, A, B, C, Seniors, and Ladies.

The entrance fee is \$100 per player. Payments for the entrance fee can be made at Laolao Bay Golf & Resort and the NMC Cashier.

For more information on how to donate to the NMC tribution and steadfast support Foundation or to register to play, log on to www.marianas.edu or call 234-5498 ext. 6764/6840. (PR)

### Military to conduct training at Warning Area 517

**ASAN, Guam**—The military will conduct training at Warning Area 517 April 18-20 from noon to 10pm.

The general public, especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators are advised to stay clear of

the area during the dates and times indicated.

W-517 is an irregular shaped polygon comprising of 14,000 nautical square miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends southsouthwest in international waters. W-517 supports surface and aerial gunnery, missiles, and laser exercises.

For more information, contact the Joint Region Marianas Public Affairs Office at (671) 349-4055/3209. (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Saipan Travel Inc. general manager Henry Liang, Saipan Travel Inc. president Tom Liu, Hyatt Regency Saipan general manager Nick K. Nishikawa, Hyatt Regency director of Food and Beverage Tyrell Pauling, and Hyatt Regency director of Sales and Marketing Danny Son pose for a group photo with the super-sized airline ticket donation to the 20th Annual Hyatt Regency Saipan Charity Golf Classic tournament.

**14** MONDAY, APRIL 18, 2016 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# 35th Flame Tree Arts Festival

PHOTOS By JON PEREZ



Acting governor Victor B. Hocog, left, talks to some of the special guests of last Thursday's opening of the 35th Annual Flame Tree Arts Festival at the Civic Center beach in Susupe.



A Korean K-Pop group was among the performers that entertained the crowd.



Tourists check on the artworks created by local artists.



A couple looks at some of the paintings displayed.



Kids were part of the performers.



Members of the Micronesian community perform a traditional stick



Guam football coach Jacob Dowdell and four of his Guam High School players were on island for a clinic.



Marianas Counseling Services counselor Chris Sablan, left, talks about the dangers of substance abuse such as "ice" or crystal



Members of the Pua Hinano perform a Tahitian dance.



Pua Hinano Tahitian dancers director Irma Scalamera, left, and Miss Marianas Jian Joyner.

# **Business**

# Finance leaders pledge forceful response to boost world economy

WASHINGTON (AP)—Finance officials on Saturday pledged a more forceful effort to stimulate a sluggish global economy.

The hope is that stronger growth can boost long-stagnant wages and combat a rising backlash against globalization.

The finance leaders said they will use all the policy tools available to them to promote "strong, sustainable, inclusive, job-rich and more balanced global growth."

The commitment came in a joint statement from the policy-setting panel of the 189-nation International Monetary Fund at the end of its spring meeting in Washington.

Markets have stabilized after a chaotic start to the year, when fears were growing about a possible new global recession. But the IMF's communique cited a long list of threats, from terrorist attacks and the Syrian refugee crisis to the shock to global confidence from a potential exit by Britain from the European Union.

"Against this backdrop, it is important to buttress confidence in our policies," the IMF said.

The IMF discussions followed two days of talks among finance officials of the Group of 20 major economies. Representing the United States were Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew and Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen.

The concern about economic growth was heightened at the beginning of this year by tumult in financial markets. Investors feared that China's economy, the world's second biggest, was slowing more than expected, raising the possibility of a global recession.

Agustin Carstens, the head

of the Bank of Mexico and chairman of the IMF's policy panel, said finance leaders realized "there was no room for complacency" even though markets have stabilized.

New threats may imperil efforts to promote greater trade and capital flows between countries.

Many nations buffeted by the forces of globalization have lost jobs and workers' wages have stagnated. In the United States, this anger has propelled the presidential candidacy of Republican front-runner Donald Trump. In Britain, voters will decide in June whether to leave the European Union.

The finance leaders said they believed their actions would help stimulate growth and boost jobs and wages. But they acknowledged there was no time to waste in pro-

ducing results.

### Poll: Americans happy at home, upset with federal government

CHICAGO (AP)—All that talk of an angry America?

An Associated Press-GfK poll finds that most Americans are happy with their friends and family, feel good about their finances and are more or less content at work. It's government, particularly the federal government, that's making them see red.

Almost 8 in 10 Americans say they're dissatisfied or angry with the way the federal government is working, while about the same proportion say they're satisfied or enthusiastic about their personal lives. Republicans are far more likely to be angry—half of GOP voters, compared with about one-quarter of Democrats or independents—and those Republicans are much more supportive of Donald Trump, the front-runner for the party's presidential nomination.

Still, anger isn't so much driven by political ideology as it is by an overall disdain for a political system that doesn't seem to be working, voters said in follow-up interviews. They're upset with both parties, as well as career politicians and Washington insiders who, those surveyed said, don't put their constituents' interests first.

"There are too many lobbyists and people who are not really working for the people anymore. They're working to line their own pockets," said 37-year-old Greg Boire of Belding, Michigan, who works as a bank customer service representative and voted for Trump in that state's Republican primary. "It happens on both sides. ... It's just the whole government in general."

John Santoro of San Jose, California, a 58-year-old market development manager for a company that makes semiconductor-related products, said he's doing well financially but is angry about a lack of progress to lower the country's debt.

### **BUSINESS BRIEFS**

### Iran says it will not attend Qatar oil production meeting

DOHA, Qatar (AP)—Iran says it will not attend an oil producers' meeting in Qatar aimed at freezing production. The Oil Ministry's SHANA news agency quoted Oil Minister Bijan Namdar Zangeneh making the announcement in a report carried only in Farsi Saturday night. The agency quoted Zangeneh as saying: "We reached the conclusion that the Doha meeting is for those who want to sign the oil freeze plans, and if we wanted to have a representative at the meeting, it was to show our support of this project. But since Iran is not going to sign this, there is no need for the presence of Iran's representative at the meeting." Producers are meeting in Doha on Sunday to discuss a plan to freeze production at January levels to try to bolster global prices.

### Stolen in 1955, famous 'inverted Jenny' stamp

NEW YORK (AP)—Opening a new chapter in an infamous stamp-world mystery. a valuable "inverted Jenny" stamp has surfaced six decades after it was stolen from a collectors' convention. The stamp—one of the world's most famous pieces of postage—was among four of its kind taken from a 1955 collectors' convention. While two were recovered over 30 years ago, there had been no sign of the others until this

one was submitted to a New York auction house this month and authenticated. "It's one of the most notorious crimes in philatelic history, and there's a piece of the puzzle now that's in place," said Scott English, the administrator of the American Philatelic Research Library, which owns the stamp and is working with auctioneers Spink USA and federal authorities to recover it. The would-be consigner, a man in his 20s who lives in the United Kingdom, said he'd inherited the stamp from his grandfather and knew little about it, said George Eveleth, head of Spink USA's philatelic department. He said authorities had told the auctioneers not to release the name of the consigner, who is in his 20s.

# **Nation**

# **Cruz wins all 14 Wyoming** Republican Party delegates

CASPER, Wyo. (AP)— Painstaking organization and in-person campaigning paid off again for Ted Cruz on Saturday as he nailed down all 14 delegates up for grabs at the Republican Party convention in Wyoming. The result leaves Donald Trump facing yet another loss in a string of defeats in Western states.

Saturday's sweep for Cruz follows his victory last month in Wyoming, when he scored 9 of 12 available delegates at county conventions. Trump and Marco Rubio each won one delegate last month in Wyoming while one remained undecided.

Trump still leads the overall delegate race. The AP delegate count: Trump, 744; Cruz, 559; and Kasich, 144. Needed to win: 1,237.

Cruz was the only candidate to address the convention in Casper on Saturday, promising to end what he



Republican presidential candidate Sen. Ted Cruz speaks during the Wyoming GOP Convention on Saturday, April 16, 2016, at the Parkway Plaza Hotel and Convention Centre in Casper, Wyo

President Barack Obama's "war on coal" if he's elected. Wyoming is the nation's leading coal-producing state.

Trump largely bypassed the state. In a telephone interview Saturday on "Fox and Friends," he said: "I don't want to waste millions of dollars going out to Wyoming many months before to wine and dine and to essentially pay off these people, because a lot of it's a payoff, you understand that?"

Trump's defeat in Wyoming follows his shutout earlier this month in Colorado, where he failed to pick up a single delegate of the 34 in play. He has urged his supporters to protest the results to state officials in that state.

### GOP official rails over effort aimed at nomination rules

WASHINGTON (AP)—In an extraordinary display of internal discord, the chairman of the Republican Party's rules committee accused top GOP officials Saturday of "a breach of our trust" by improperly trying to impede a proposed change in bylaws that would make it harder for party leaders to nominate a fresh candidate for president.

Bruce Ash, RNC committeeman from Arizona, wrote the harshly worded email to the other 55 members of the GOP rules committee that he chairs. The confidential email, obtained by The Associated Press, was written days before party officials gather in Hollywood, Florida, for preliminary discussions about what rules the GOP will use at its presidential nominating convention this July.

Ash wrote the note at a time when some top Republicans consider the party's two leading presidential contenders, billionaire Donald Trump and Texas Sen. Ted Cruz, to be likely November election losers and have discussed how to replace them with alternatives at the summer convention in Cleveland, Ohio. It is possible that no contenders will have the 1,237 delegates needed to clinch the nomination at that gathering, which would produce the first GOP convention without a presumptive nominee since 1976.

Trump has bitterly clashed with party leaders over rules that he claims have been rigged against him, a charge party leaders deny.

Ash said he has "become troubled" during discussions with RNC Chairman Reince Priebus and other party officials that by not making the proposed change, GOP officials "could use their power to attempt to achieve a political result" at the nominating convention.

### Mother, father, 3 children killed in suburban duplex fire

BELLEVUE, Pa. (AP)—A Lasch, 41, was pronounced fire at a suburban duplex has killed a mother, a father and their three children.

The Friday night blaze in Bellevue, just northwest of Pittsburgh, doesn't appear to be suspicious, an Allegheny County fire official said Saturday. Arriving crews found "heavy fire" coming out of the left side of the duplex and pulled five victims from the home, Bellevue fire Chief Glenn Pritchard said.

Angela Lasch, 38, was pronounced dead along with her son Noah, 11, and daughters Kayley, 6, and Hannah, 4, the county medical examiner's office said. Lasch's husband and the children's father, Stephen

dead Saturday afternoon, a county spokeswoman said.

Two people living on the other side of the duplex escaped the flames.

Neighbor Crandall Ree watched as firefighters carried several people out of the house.

"This is just horrible, man," Reeves told the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette. "This is just crazy. I was just wondering where the kids were at."

Reeves said he often saw the Lasch family's children riding their bicycles up and down the cobblestone avenue.

Another neighbor, Bob Patton, said he saw paramedics working on two of the kids.

"It just tears at you. I can't stop thinking about it. All fires are bad, but when there's kids involved it's just so very tragic," said Patton, who added that he awoke Saturday with tears in his eyes.

Jeffrey Stern said he and his wife, Lana Stern, began renting the home to the close-knit family six or seven years ago.

"We're both just devastated. We're still in shock. We just can't get our heads wrapped around this vet," he told the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review. "You see stories like this in the news, and you never imagine it happening to you. It's just beyond terrible."

16 MONDAY, APRIL 18, 2016 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# Asia

# Thousands search for missing in Japan's deadly earthquakes

ASO, Japan (AP)—Thousands of rescue workers searched a debris-strewn village in southern Japan for about a half-dozen missing people Sunday, as the Japanese government said U.S. military aircraft would join the relief mission for communities devastated by two powerful earthquakes that killed 41 people.

The search is concentrated in Minamiaso, which means South Aso, a village in a mountainous area southwest of 1,592-meter (5,223-foot) Mount Aso, the largest active volcano in Japan.

Landslides from the second earthquake early Saturday morning have blocked roads and destroyed bridges, making it difficult to access the area east of Kumamoto, a city of 740,000 on the southwestern island of Kyushu.

In Tokyo, Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said the Defense Ministry is working with the U.S. military to start aid flights.

"We are extremely grateful, and we would like to coordinate quickly and have the emergency relief be transported in as soon



Rescuers continue a search operation in Minamiaso, Kumamoto prefecture, Japan Sunday, April 17, 2016.

as possible," he said.

Overnight rainfall did not appear to cause any more landslides, as had been feared, and the skies had cleared by morning.

About 80,000 homes in Ku-were without running water.

mamoto prefecture still didn't have electricity Sunday, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry said. Japanese media reported earlier that an estimated 400,000 households were without running water.

# Seoul, US say N. Korean missile launch apparently failed

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—A North Korea missile launch meant to celebrate the birthday of the country's founder has apparently failed, South Korean and U.S. officials said Friday, an embarrassing setback in what was reportedly the inaugural test of a new, powerful midrange missile.

The U.S. and South Korean officials provided few

details, including the type of missile. But South Korea's Yonhap news agency carried an unsourced report that a "Musudan" missile, which could one day be capable of reaching far-off U.S. military bases in Asia and the Pacific, exploded in the air a few seconds after liftoff.

A U.S. official speaking on condition of anonymity to

discuss intelligence matters told The Associated Press that it appeared to be a Musudan missile but no definitive conclusion had been reached.

Despite the failure, the North has another Musudan loaded on a mobile launcher and Pyongyang will likely fire it, according to South Korean and U.S. authorities, Yonhap reported.

### ASIAN BRIEFS

### China criticizes Taiwan for releasing fraud suspects

**BEIJING** (AP)—A Chinese spokesman criticized Taiwan after the self-ruled island released 20 fraud suspects just one day after they were deported from Malaysia, citing a lack of evidence. China and Taiwan have been tussling over which side would prosecute an international ring of Taiwanese who allegedly targeted hundreds of mainland Chinese in telephone scams. Malaysia authorities on Friday deported 20 suspects despite protests from China, which claims jurisdiction because its citizens were victimized. The spokesman for the Chinese State Council's Taiwan Affairs Office An Fengshan said Saturday that Taiwan had

"disregarded many victims' interests and harmed them a second time" after releasing the suspects, and urged Taiwan to "immediately rectify their mistakes," according to a statement on the office's website. An said releasing the suspects harmed the two sides' years-long cooperation on criminal investigations and called on Taiwan to "prevent greater damage to the development of cross-Strait relations."

# Myanmar's new president pledges to free political prisoners YANGON, Myanmar

(AP)—Myanmar's new president on Sunday pledged to continue efforts to release remaining political prisoners as part of the sweeping demo-

cratic changes his government envisions after a half-century of military control. President Htin Kyaw is leading the country's first freely elected government after more than 50 years of direct or indirect military domination. Opponents of the old junta were commonly arrested and jailed for years for their political views. One of the first acts of the new civilian administration that took power at the end of March was to set free more than 100 political prisoners and detainees awaiting trial just before the New Year holiday began. It isn't clear exactly how many political detainees remain in custody. More than 1,000 were released under the previous quasi-civilian government as it moved the country toward openness and democracy.

# World

# Earthquake kills 41 in Ecuador

QUITO, Ecuador (AP)—

The strongest earthquake to hit Ecuador in decades flattened buildings and buckled highways along the country's Pacific coast, killing at least 41 people and causing damage in the capital and other major cities that were hundreds of miles (kilometers) away from the epicenter.

The death toll was expected to rise Sunday as rescuers reached the sparsely populated area of fishing ports and tourist beaches where the magnitude-7.8 quake was centered.

"We're trying to do the most we can but there's almost nothing we can do," said Gabriel Alcivar, mayor of Pedernales, a town of 40,000 near the quake's epicenter. He pleaded for authorities to send earth-moving machines and emergency rescue workers as dozens of buildings in the town were flattened, trapping residents among the rubble. He said looting broke out amid the chaos but authorities were too busy trying to save lives to assert order.

"This wasn't just a house that collapsed, it was an entire town," he said.

Vice President Jorge Glas said in a televised address late Saturday there were initial reports of 41 dead in the cities of Manta, Portoviejo and Guayaquil - all several hundred kilometers (miles) from where the quake struck shortly after nightfall.

President Rafael Correa signed a decree declaring a national emergency, he said on Twitter. Correa, who was rushing home from Rome after attending a Vatican conference, urged on Ecuadoreans to stay strong while authorities handle the disaster. He hoped to be back in the country by Sunday afternoon.

The quake was the strongest to hit Ecuador since 1979, Glas said. On social media, photos circulated of homes reduced to rubble, a shopping center's roof torn apart, supermarket shelves shaking violently and a collapsed highway overpass that crushed a car. In Manta, the airport was closed after the control tower collapsed, injuring an air traffic control worker and a security guard.

In the capital Quito, hun-

dreds of kilometers away, people fled into the streets in fear as the quake shook their buildings. It knocked out electricity in several neighborhoods and six homes collapsed but after a few hours power was being restored, Quito's Mayor Mauricio Rodas said.

"I'm in a state of panic," said Zoila Villena, one of many Quito residents who congregated in the streets. "My building moved a lot and things fell to the floor. Lots of neighbors were screaming and kids crying."

More than 10,000 security forces were being mobilized to provide assistance but Glas said accessing the disaster zone was difficult due to landslides.

Among those killed was the driver of a car crushed by an overpass that buckled in Guayaquil, the country's most populous city. The city's international airport was also briefly closed. Hydroelectric dams and oil pipelines in the OPEC-member nation were shut down as a precautionary measure but so far hadn't reported any damage.

### Plucked from the uncertainty of Lesbos: 12 Syrian refugees

ROME (AP)—Pope Francis says his gesture is "a drop of water in the sea" of Europe's migration crisis. Yet for 12 Syrian refugees, the pope's decision to fly them back to Italy from Greece is an act of kindness that will resonate for the rest of their lives.

"Thanks be to God," exulted Wafa, mother of two children who made the trip with her husband Osama as she arrived in Rome. "I thank the pope for this very human gesture."

The three Muslim families, including six children, had all fled their homes amid the devastation of Syria's civil war. They were plucked from a refugee camp on the Greek

island of Lesbos, where they have been stranded for weeks. They were chosen because they had their documents in order, not to make a political point to Europe about the need to better integrate Muslims, the pope said.

"Their privilege is that they are children of God," Francis told reporters en route home to Italy after an emotional trip to Lesbos on Saturday.

The Roman Catholic charity Sant'Egidio, which is providing the refugees with preliminary assistance, welcomed them at their head-quarters in Rome's Trastevere neighborhood late Saturday. The mothers were given red roses, and they were applaud-

ed as they arrived.

Sant'Egidio released some details about the refugees but didn't give any of their last names due to privacy concerns.

Hasan and Nour, both engineers, and their 2-yearold son fled their home in Zabadani, a mountainous area on the outskirts of the Syrian capital of Damascus that has been heavily bombed. They headed to Turkey and took a boat across the Aegean Sea to Lesbos, like hundreds of thousands before them, hoping to reach Europe. But Austria and several Balkan nations shut their borders to refugees in early March, stranding more than 50,000 people in Greece.

### Ethiopia: Armed group kills more than 140 near South Sudan

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia (AP)—An Ethiopian official says that armed groups have killed more than 140 civilians near Ethiopia's border with South Sudan.

The attackers came from South Sudan and killed civilians, including women and children, Getachew Reda, Ethiopia's communications minister, told the Associated Press on Saturday.

"The Ethiopian defense force is currently chasing

after the perpetrators," said Reda, adding that there is no relation between the attackers and the South Sudanese government or the country's rebels. "Our defense forces have so far killed 60 members of the attackers."

Ethiopian forces may cross into South Sudan to pursue them, he said.

The attack took place on Friday in Jakawa, in Ethiopia's Gambella region and the attackers were members of South Sudan's Murle tribe, said Reda. A number of children were abducted and taken into South Sudan, he said. The latest attack is much larger than past skirmishes, he said.

The Ethiopian region hosts thousands of South Sudanese refugees who fled after war broke in their country in December 2013. It is also home to Ethiopian and South Sudanese armed groups that attack government installations and soldiers.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE MONDAY, APRIL 18, 2016 **17** 

# Focus

**HYUNG-JIN KIM** 



EOUL, South Korea (AP)—One North Korean who worked abroad says that as a waitress in China, she was forced to put

up with male customers who groped her and tried to get her drunk. Two others recall the frozen bodies of their countrymen stored in Russian logging camps. Another says he toiled for up to 16 hours a day at a Kuwaiti construction site surrounded by wire fences.

As difficult as those lives were, the four workers told The Associated Press, it beat staying in the North. The jobs actually conveyed status back home, and were so coveted that people used bribes and family connections to get them.

"I beat the odds of 1 in 12 to become a waitress ... People's views of jobs in North Korea are totally different from here," said Lee Soung Hee, 42, who worked at a North Korean-run restaurant in the northeastern Chinese city of Dalian in the early 2000s and now lives in South Korea. "Women in North Korea have a fantasy about an overseas waitress job."

The stories of Lee and the other three workers, all of whom have also defected to rival South Korea, speak volumes about how different life appears when viewed through a North Korean lens.

The country has sent tens of thousands of workers abroad with a mission to bring in foreign currency. Human-rights organizations have called those workers modern-day slaves, while also decrying human-rights abuses North Koreans face back home. To the workers themselves, there is little debate about which plight is more favorable.

The defectors, who worked overseas from the 1990s until the early 2000s, said they had to submit much of their salaries to Pyongyang authorities and never received some of their promised wages. But they said the money they did receive, sometimes earned through moonlighting, still greatly exceeded what they had earned at home.

They said they were also fed relatively well, placed under less strict surveillance and given a rare chance to see the world and learn truths about their homeland.

Lee had expected her overseas experience to elevate her social standing so that she could have a husband with a better job. The other three workers, all men, wanted to buy televisions, cassette play-



# N. Koreans. Brutal work abroad better than life back home

ers and refrigerators after their typical three years of service.

"I had seen people who had returned home after foreign service smoking good cigarettes and going out for a beer," said Lim II, who worked at a Kuwait City construction site in the late 1990s. "For ordinary people, things like those were 'rice cake in a picture," a Korean expression equivalent to "pie in the sky."

North Koreans working overseas more recently hold similar views, according to South Korean experts and activists who have interviewed current workers or defectors with recent foreign service experience.

The average monthly wage for ordinary North Korean workers is less than \$1, according to defectors. Many North Korean families now make money via businesses in unauthorized markets. "From our viewpoint, it's labor exploitation. But for them, going abroad is a special benefit. They view it as a chance to get away from abysmal lives at home," said Go Myong-Hyun of the Seoul-based Asan Institute for Policy Studies, co-author of a 2014 research paper on North Korean workers. "The problem is that North Korea is making bad use of this."

North Korea denies its workers suffer abuses, calling international criticism a plot to undermine its system.

South Korea's spy agency says 50,000 to 60,000 North Korean workers are in about 50 countries, mostly Russia and China; some experts believe the number of foreign workers is much higher. The Seoul-based North Korea



In this Dec. 9, 2014 photo, North Korean defector Lim II, who worked at a Kuwait City construction site in the late 1990s, speaks with a map of the Korean peninsula during an interview in Seoul, South Korea.

Strategy Center said in a 2012 paper that the country's foreign workers earned the North between \$150 million and \$230 million annually.

There is consensus among outside experts that North Korea is pushing to expand labor exports because long-running international sanctions have left the country with few legitimate sources of foreign currency.

They are employed in factories and restaurants in China; and logging camps and construction sites in Russia. Others work construction in the Middle East, or are in Africa building giant political statues, teaching taekwondo or providing health care. Their monthly average income was estimated at \$120 to \$150, according to the Asan Institute.

The North usually sends relatively affluent, loyal citizens who it believes can be less affected by foreign cultures. The vast majority are married men whose families must stay home, discouraging would-be defectors, analysts and activists specializing in North Korea said.

Defections of North Korean workers abroad appear to be relatively uncommon, though statistics are not available. An exception occurred last week, when South Korea announced the defections of 13 North Koreans who had worked abroad together at a restaurant.

Lee was teaching literature to North Korean middle- and high-school students when she jumped at the chance to be a waitress abroad. Lee said her father gave local officials up to 15,000 won (about \$70) to help her land the waitress job. Others chosen were fellow teachers, doctors and new college graduates.

Lim used 20 bottles of highquality liquor and 30 packs of cigarettes as bribes. Kim Saegil, a truck driver at a Siberian logging camp, said a relative pulled some strings. "When I was informed I would go abroad, I felt really, really happy," said Kim, 49, who worked in Siberia from 1995 to 1998. "It was a feeling that I've never experienced since then. It's still probably the best moment in my life."

Much of the workers' actual experiences overseas, however, was grim.

Lee Soung Hee said she was given only one day off per month and had to work even when she learned her mother had died. She said secret police agents monitored waitresses and beat them for hiding tips.

"There were customers who were touching our bodies, but we must not refuse that because our mission was to curry favor with them as much as possible to make them spend all their money," she said. "When customers poured drinks for us, we had to drink them all. But we could not get intoxicated or we would have been criticized for failing to be loyal to the party."

She said colleagues who failed to earn target incomes had to go to motels to have sex with customers who would pay about 650 yuan (\$100).

Lee found some positives. She said she enjoyed fruits she had never eaten before, including pineapples, prickly pears and longans.

Lim, a novelist, was a carpenter during his several months in Kuwait. He said he never received his promised \$120-a-month salary, though he worked from dawn to midnight at a site surrounded by wire fences. He said he was frustrated when he learned Bangladesh and Indonesian

workers nearby earned at least \$450 per month.

Lim said he was allowed to moonlight at other construction sites after promising North Korean officials a cut of the extra income.

Lee Yong-ho, a defector who was a truck driver at a Russian logging camp, said he often worked 12 to 14 hours per day but never thought about his working conditions.

"Slaves? Well, I didn't actually think about something like that. I only thought how much I could earn each month," said Lee, now a manual laborer in South Korea.

Kim, who worked at a different Siberian logging camp with about 900 other North Koreans, said dozens of workers died during his stay, many after being hit by falling trees. He said dead workers were stored for months in some vacant houses, with their entire bodies except their heads wrapped by blankets.

"It was so cold there that they hadn't decomposed. Their faces looked just the same as before," he said. "I once touched some of their faces and it was like touching ice."

Lee Yong-ho also saw frozen bodies stored. It was cheaper to them home in groups.

Kim said he had some extra income because he was sometimes allowed to collect wild fruits to sell. He enjoyed drinking alcohol with colleagues and deriding then-leader Kim Jong II—the late father of current leader Kim Jong Un.

"We just called him 'Kim Jong Il' though we called him 'the general' when we were in North Korea," he said. "We sometimes even called him a 'little child' as he was small. We had such freedom there."

All four workers eventually escaped while working over-

"I didn't want to go back to an inferior country," said Lee Soung Hee, who ran away with a South Korean customer who is now her husband. Lee now teaches defector students in Seoul.

She later learned authorities in North Korea forced her relatives to move to remote places or put them under stricter surveillance systems in reprisal against her defection.

The other three workers know nothing about their families' fates.

Kim said that although he decided not to return to North Korea "after getting a taste for freedom," he misses his family, including a baby daughter he left behind.

"She should be 22 now," said Kim, who is now a janitor near Seoul. "I'm still thinking about her."

**18** MONDAY, APRIL 18, 2016 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# Health & Fitness

# uinn on Nutrition: Serving size vs portion size

By BARBARA QUINN

THE MONTEREY COUNTY HERALD

What is the difference between a serving size and a portion size? Plenty. A serving size is a specific measure of a food. A portion is the amount of that food that happens to be on my

plate. Why should we care? Understanding serving sizes is one key to help manage our growing national waistline.

For example, one serving of milk is defined by nutrition experts as 8-ounces or 1 cup. Two cups (16 ounces) would be two servings and so on.

Most adults need two servings or 2 cups of a calcium-rich food such as milk, yogurt or fortified soy beverage every day for optimal health. On the other hand, a portion of milk — what one actually consumes at a meal — might be a whole other animal.

Case in point: On a recent of low fat milk, for example, road trip, we stopped at a popular restaurant for breakfast.

I ordered a glass of milk with my meal.

"Do you want the medium or large size?" the waiter asked.

After thinking it somewhat odd that "small" was not even an option, I asked, "How big is the medium?"

"Sixteen ounces," she said. "And the large is 32 ounces."

So...my dietitian brain calculated, a medium portion at this restaurant provides 2 servings of milk — my daily quota. And the belly busting 32 ounces a whole quart — could easily feed a family of four.

Why does this matter? Large portions add extra nutrients and they also add extra calories. One cup (8 ounces) might eat a 12-ounce portion hoo.com.

contains about 300 milligrams of calcium, 120 calories and as much protein as an egg. A 32-ounce portion weighs in at almost 500 calories, a day's supply of calcium and close to a daily quota for protein. We need to know the difference.

Not that we always have to consume standardized serving sizes. I just need to know that — if I consume a 16 ounce portion of milk — I have just met my daily goal of two servings of a high calcium food.

Nutrition guidelines also tell us to consume 2 to 3 servings of a protein-rich food each day. And this recommendation comes with the understanding that one serving is equivalent to 3 ounces of cooked meat, fish, tofu, poultry or the like. However, Mr. Bodybuilder of steak which — in nutrition terms — equates to 4 servings.

What adds up is this: If we understand serving sizes, we can figure out how the actual portions we eat stack up to recommendations for optimal health (and weight). Here's one good source to help with that. www.choosemyplate.gov.

I can also learn to order smaller portions. Or to share gargantuan restaurant portions with someone else. That's important, too.

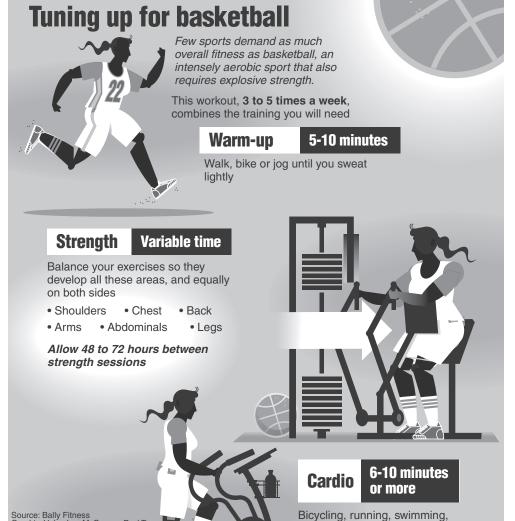
Barbara Quinn is a registered dietitian and certified diabetes educator at the Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula. She is the author of "Quinn-Essential Nutrition" (Westbow Press, 2015). Email her at barbaraquinn88@ya-



One serving of milk is defined by nutrition experts as 8 ounces, or 1 cup.

**Personal Trainer** 

Source: Bally Fitness Graphic: Helen Lee McComas, Paul Trap Fribune News Service



stair climbing or cross-country

(On a gym machine or

outdoors)

# WHO: Diabetes rises fourfold over last quarter-century

**GENEVA** (AP)—Excessive weight, obesity, aging and population growth drove a nearly four-fold increase in worldwide cases of diabetes over the last quarter-century, affecting 422 million people in 2014, the World Health Organization reported Wednesday.

In a new report on diabetes, the U.N. health agency called for stepped-up measures to reduce risk factors for diabetes and improve treatment and care that has ballooned in recent years alongside an increase in obesity rates. WHO said 8.5 percent of the world population had diabetes two years ago, up from 108 million, or 4.7 percent, in 1980.

On Wednesday, WHO Director-General Margaret Chan said:

"We need to rethink our daily lives: to eat healthily, be physically active and avoid excessive weight gain."

The Geneva-based agency blamed growing consumption of food and beverages high in sugar. Diabetes increased around the world but affects people more often than wealthier populations. The rates rose most in Africa, the Middle East and Asia—with the "Eastern Mediterranean" region more than doubling its prevalence to 13.7 percent of the population, the only world region with a doubledigit percentage.

Diabetes is a chronic condition in which the body either does not make enough insulin to break down the sugar in foods or uses insulin inefficiently. It can cause early



In this file photo dated Wednesday, March 23, 2016, World Health Organization Director-General Margaret Chan delivers her speech during a conference in Lyon, central France.

death or serious complications like blindness, stroke, kidney disease or heart disease.

In the "Global Report on Diabetes" released Wednesday. WHO says diabetes caused 1.5 million deaths in 2012, and another 2.2 millower- and middle-income lion deaths were caused by higher-than-optimal blood glucose levels, by increasing the risks of cardiovascular and other diseases.

The report does not distinguish between Type 1 diabetes, which involves deficient insulin production in the body and requires daily insulin injections for survival, and Type 2, in which the body uses insulin ineffectively and is more often associated with obesity and relatively sedentary lifestyles.

The increase has coincided

with growing rates of obesity: In Western countries like the U.S and Britain, two-thirds of people are now overweight or obese. The WHO report stopped short of any drastic new recommendations, suggesting for example that countries build political support and allocate resources for diabetes prevention, and "prioritize actions to prevent people becoming overweight and obese."

The report said WHO is updating its guidelines on fat and carbohydrate intake, but said adults can reduce their risk of type 2 diabetes through regular, adequate physical activity and "healthy diets that include sufficient consumption of dietary fiber, and replacing saturated fatty acids with polyunsaturated fatty acids."

MONDAY, APRIL 18, 2016 **19** SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# Life & Style

# Club C introduces Spicy Tuesdays



JON PEREZ

The pan-fried spicy green beans with garlic and of course peppers.

By JON PEREZ jon\_perez@saipantribune.com REPORTER

Club C is introducing Spicy Tuesdays, its new promotion that offers hot and fiery chasers. For a person who loves spicy food, like me, it is timely. But, the menu created by Chef Jack Zhang, is not for the faint of heart.

"I like spicy food. So, I just created my own style of spicy food. A menu that would cater to the local customers," said Zhang, a native of Guangxi in southern China who started working at Club C in 2014.

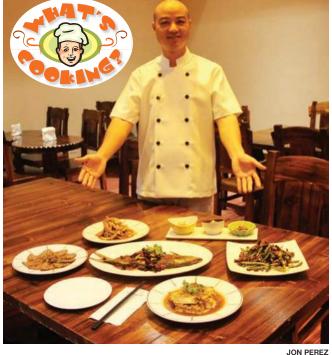
Zhang has been cooking for more than 17 years, starting as an apprentice when he was 13 years old to his father, who

owns a restaurant and catering business.

"I first learned how to cook Chinese dishes but I decided to also study other cuisines like Japanese. I didn't have any difficulty learning how to cook Japanese food since I was still young and a fast learner," added Zhang, who studied kaiseki under the guidance of a Japanese chef.

Kaiseki is one of the two kinds of traditional Japanese meal styles the other is kaiseki-ryori. Kaiseki is learning the skills and techniques of preparing the multi-course Japanese meal.

Club C's Spicy Tuesdays initial offering consists of five dishes—pan-fried spicy green



Chef Jack Zhang has created a new set of dishes just for Club C's Spicy Tuesdays promo.

beans, spicy and hot tofu, Sichuan flavor mushroom, fiery blast sliced beef, and pan-fried fish with hot and spicy sauce appetizers you could share with your friends while relaxing after a long day of work.

This will be Club C's initial offering and slowly, as Spicy Tuesday's make its mark on the local palate, Zhang and his kitchen staff could either stick with the dishes or create new ones every week.

"It will be an evolving menu depending on what dishes I create that would satisfy the local customers. I might stick



Try the appetizer spicy and hot tofu.

with the current menu or create a new one, it will all depend on the popularity of the dishes," he added.

The fiery taste of the famous Tinian hot pepper can be found in all the dishes that also include dried, green, and other locally sourced peppers.

"But you could request if you want the spiciness to be milder. But if you want a real challenge, go for the "real" thing," Zhang said with a laugh. "It's good food to eat while drinking beer, whisky or wine, because that's what I drink."

Club C's daily menu reavailable-braised mains Chinese hamburger,

master wonton, garlic scallops, sweet wine rice cake dessert, Club C special ribs, crispy baby chicken with sauce, poached chicken with sauce, Korea kimchi pork, homemade pork chop, tasty tuna avocado, Chinese style oxtail soup, barbecue homemade noodle soup, and boiling homemade dumpling—which have been regular favorites of local and tourists alike.

Spicy Tuesdays begins tomorrow, April 19. Each chaser, which has a price range of \$10 to \$15, comes with one free complimentary beer.

For more information or reservations, call 483-7636.



Be prepared to take on the pan-fried fish. Any seasonal fish can be used as the main ingredient of the dish.

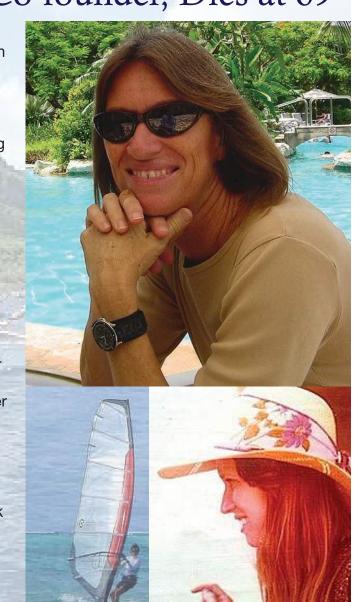
# Ann Jordan, Marianas Coffee Company Co-founder, Dies at 69

Ann Charlotte Jordan, 69, died Saturday, April 2, 2016, at her Saipan residence from asphyxia related to drowning in her bathtub. She leaves husband Charles "Chuck" Darwin Jordan; daughter Jessica and husband Paul; son Robert and fiancée Rebecca; grandson Landon; siblings Susan Marie Highway, Richard Allan Likins, and James Fredrick Likins. Ann's older sister, Patricia Lynn Likins, precedes her in death.

Ann was born in Stockton, California on March 6, 1947. She was the second child, and the second daughter, of Elizabeth Mary Lynn and Walter Newton Likins. After growing up in Tracy, California, she attended the California Polytechnic State University. She graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology in 1970. The following year she earned her California Teaching Credential for middle and secondary school science. Ann met Chuck while at Cal Poly, and they were married on June 11, 1972 on the coast of Montaña de Oro State Park in California.

Ann and Chuck moved to Micronesia after joining the Peace Corps in 1974. They were stationed in Falalop Island, Ulithi Atoll in Yap. Ann taught high school science and math topless, as was the custom. After their volunteer term ended, they moved to Mammoth Lakes, California where Ann worked for two years as a Naturalist for the U.S. Forest Service. She also participated in downhill ski competitions. Ann and Chuck decided to move back to Yap in 1978. In Colonia, Yap they had two children, Jessica and Robert. Afterward, Chuck was hired by the U.S. Department of the Interior as the Director of the Office of Transition for the U.S. Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. The family moved to the Trust Territory headquarters at Saipan in June 1981, and has lived there ever since. For about fifteen years, Ann worked at Pacific American Title Insurance. In 2004, Ann and Chuck founded the Marianas Coffee Company, which has flourished thanks to her imaginative and energetic management style.

Ann was in the ocean at every opportunity. She won awards at various local and international competitions in both windsurfing and outrigger canoeing. She especially enjoyed mentoring young windsurfers and canoeists. Long known for her positive outlook on life, Ann was an active member of the Saipan community. Her unexpected and tragic passing shocked family and friends. A public memorial service will be held at the Grandvrio Resort Saipan from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 21. Memorial contributions may be made to the Karidat Program, 6702346981. Borja Funeral Home, Saipan, is handling arrangements.



# Following Diana's footsteps, British royals visit Taj Mahal

**AGRA**, **India** (AP)—The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge invoked nostalgia Saturday as they sat and smiled for photos on the same marble bench in front of the Taj Mahal where Prince William's late mother, Princess Diana, had posed alone for a memorable 1992 photo.

Winding down their weeklong royal tour of India and Bhutan, William and his wife, the former Kate Middleton, were briefed by a guide as they entered the compound that houses the iconic monument to love.

Ahead of the British royals' visit to the Taj Mahal, about a dozen armed policemen entered the complex and the left section was cordoned off. Ordinary tourists were allowed to enter the building from the right. The royal couple caused a great deal of excitement, with dozens of people taking pictures on their cellphones.

William and Kate's visit was filled with symbolism. Comparisons will inevitably be made to Diana and the lonely figure she cut 24 years ago in front of the white marble mausoleum built



by a Mughal emperor to entomb his beloved wife.

Newspaper headlines had suggested at the time that Diana was delivering a hidden message about the end of her marriage to Prince Charles. Four years later, the two announced their divorce.

is kept alive by so many who

travel there."

When asked Saturday how to describe the Taj Mahal, William, on his first visit to India, replied, "Stunning."

Despite the scorching April temperatures—it was well over 40 degrees Celsius (104 Fahrenheit)—the royal couple smiled happily for photographs.

Much has been made of Kate's wardrobe choices during her visit to India, and on Saturday she wore a summery white and blue dress that ended just above the knees.

The streets of Agra, a normally chaotic city, were freshly swept in the morning in anticipation of the royal couple.

followed with great enthusiasm in the country, which was a British colony before gaining independence in 1947.

William and Kate arrived in Mumbai on April 10 and laid a wreath at the Taj Palace hotel, which was targeted in the 2008 terrorist attacks that killed 166 people in the city. They played cricket with local children and met Bollywood stars and business leaders at a charity ball before flying to New Delhi, where their schedule included lunch with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and a birthday party to honor Queen Elizabeth II, who turns 90 next week.

The couple, travelling without their two young children, Prince George and Princess Charlotte, then flew to northeastern India's Assam state to visit Kaziranga National Park, which has two-thirds of the world's population of Indian one-horned rhinos as well as endangered swamp deer.

They then flew to neighboring Bhutan for two days, at the invitation of its King Jigme Khesar Namgval Wangchuck and Queen Jetsun Pema, before flying back to visit the Taj Mahal.

The royal couple was scheduled to leave for London Their tour of India has been on Saturday night.

### New report says tourists spending more money in Las Vegas

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Tourists are spending more money on their trips to Sin City, according to a new report by the Las Vegas tourism board.

The Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority issued its visitor profile study this month, which showed average spending in most expense categories increased in 2015, including lodging, food and drinks, local transportation, shows and sightseeing. The length of the stays inched up, to an average of 4.4 days for the record 42.3 million visitors last year. In 2014, Las Vegas trips lasted 4.2 days.

The data is based on information volunteered by a total of 3,600 random tourists polled at various casino-hotel properties throughout the year. The agency that commissioned the yearly survey is funded by county room taxes generated by the hotels it considers partners.

Kevin Bagger, executive director of the tourism board's research center, said he interprets the latest numbers as a sign that visitors are choosing to spend more for a quality experience, as opposed to the costs of such expenses going up overall. Nearly all survey participants reported being either "very" or "somewhat" satisfied with their trip.

"Our visitors are comfort-

able spending more," Bagger said.

The largest jump in spending was for shows. On an average trip, tourists spent \$61.95 to see some type of performance, including lounge acts, headliners or comedians. It amounted to a 30 percent increase from the \$47.56 they spent in 2014, although the overall percentage of visitors who attended such a show went down to 61 percent. In 2014, 65 percent of visitors took in

The average cost of lodging also saw a significant increase, with visitors reporting spending \$102.64 per night, up nearly 19 percent from the year before. The figure did not include rooms that were bought through a vacation package or was a complimentary offering from the hotels. The price of vacation packages did go up, too, by about 5 percent to \$857.43.

Among the reported categories, only the amount of shopping dollars for an average trip went down. The average tourist spent \$122.66 per trip shopping, an 18 percent decline from the year before. This marks a fiveyear low for the shopping category, while hotels, food and drinks, transportation, shows and sightseeing all hit a five-year high in 2015.

Ahead of their visit, Wil-

liam and Kate's communications secretary, Jason Knauf, had told reporters in London that William "feels incredibly lucky to visit a place where his mother's memory

# UK spy agency chief apologizes for old prejudice about gays

LONDON (AP)—The head of Britain's digital espionage agency has apologized for the organization's historic prejudice against homosexuals, saying it failed to learn from the treatment of World War II codebreaker Alan Turing.

In a rare public speech, GCHQ chief Robert Hannigan told a gathering organized by the rights group Stonewall that the agency's ban on homosexuals had caused long-lasting psychological damage to many and hurt the agency because talented people were excluded from working there.

"The fact that it was common practice for decades reflected the intolerance of the times and the pressures of the Cold War, but it does not make it any less wrong and we should apologize for it," Hannigan said Friday at the conference organized by Stonewall, which campaigns for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender equality.

The speech offered a poignant tribute to Turing, the gay computer science pioneer and architect of the effort to crack Nazi Germany's Enigma cipher. Turing was convicted of indecency in 1952 and stripped of his security clearance. He later committed suicide.

A 2014 film about Turing, "The Imitation Game " star-



In this photo dated Thursday, Jan. 15, 2015, a library exhibit at Bletchley Park, as it would have been used by infamous codebreaker Alan Turing during World War II, in Bletchley, England.

is now seen as a genius- "a problem-solver who was not afraid to think differently and radically," Hannigan said.

It was partly to honor Turing that the agency's headquarters was lit up during a global celebration of gender and sexual diversity last year.

"It was also kind of an act of atonement-for the lost opportunity of his early death," Hannigan said. "Who knows what Turing would have gone on to do, where, for example, he might have

ring Benedict Cumberbatch, taken his pioneering inter- nally decided to start the probrought his story to a new est in artificial intelligence, cess of transition. generation. At GCHQ, Turing which is the thing everyone is talking about. We will never know and should, as a society, never repeat that mistake."

Hannigan said things are different now.

To make the point, he shared a story about an internal agency blog headlined 'So it's goodbye from him." Hannigan said that at first he thought it was written by someone who was leaving the agency for the private sector. It turned out to be the story of a transgender employee - who he called Emma - who had fi-

"We have a lot of courageous staff, civilian and military, straight and gay, who have deployed to Afghanistan, to Iraq, and other conflicts...," Hannigan said. "But it takes a particular kind of courage to write what Emma wrote in front of thousands of her colleagues."

Hannigan said he was proud the blog was the most "liked" the agency had ever had, and that the comments were genuinely supportive. But he stressed that GCHQ was still far from a utopia.

# J.J. Abrams and Chris Rock talk films, comedy and being nice

**NEW YORK** (AP)—How do you make it in show biz?

One way is, play nice, according to a pair of entertainment A-listers, J.J. Abrams and Chris Rock.

Appearing for a Directors Talk session at the Tribeca Film Festival on Friday, comedianactor-writer-director Rock was nominally on hand to interview Abrams, the multi-faceted filmmaker behind TV shows and features including "Alias," "Lost," "Star Trek" and, most recently, "Star Wars: The Force Awakens."

But both had plenty to say during what unfolded as a lively, free-form conversation.

Asked by Rock what's a deal-breaker when it comes to who he chooses to work with, Abrams replied, "People who

"When I've heard that people are difficult, I've almost always said no. Life is too short."

A bit later, Rock offered this advice to aspiring actors and filmmakers: "You're going to have meetings with pretty much the same people your whole career. So be a gentleman. THEY'RE not going ANYwhere. They move to different companies: 'Oh, no, not YOU again!""

Yes, making "Star Wars" was a blast, said Abrams. In contrast, producing the recent mini-budget thriller "10 Cloverfield Lane" was like working in miniature.

"But nothing changes in terms of the fundamentals," he said. Take away the epic scale

and computer-graphics wizardry of "Star Wars," and you've got the same essentials of cinema: actors engaged with one another entertainingly.

Actors who Abrams would like to work with, but hasn't: "Meryl Streep, the obvious go-to." Robert De Niro.

Denzel Washington? "The closest I got to working with him was when he wanted to use my office at Paramount for a while. So I guess you could say I've worked with Denzel."

"I want to direct Denzel in a comedy," Rock said.

"You could be in it, too," proposed Abrams.

"I BETTER be in it!" Rock erupted.

Abrams said he knew he wanted to be a filmmaker after

Filmmaker J.J. Abrams accepts the Showman of the Year Award during the Paramount Pictures presentation at CinemaCon 2016, the official convention of the National Association of Theatre Owners (NATO), at Caesars Palace on Monday, April 11, 2016, in Las Vegas.

taking the Universal Studios tour when he was 8 years old: "It was an enlightening thing to see the magic of how movies were made. It blew my mind."

A bit later, his father got into film production, which gave him regular access to hang out at studios.

"You had a big advantage," Rock grinned. "What job did you get that you didn't deserve?"

"I want to say 'Star Wars," Abrams cracked.

Early in his career, he found success as a script doctor fixing other writers' efforts. It's quick, lucrative work, but he began to lose sight of the creative urge that had fired him up in the first place.

## Shoulder surgery keeps Paul Stanley from KISS benefit show



BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—Shoulder surgery has prevented Paul Stanley from performing an intimate show with KISS.

Gene Simmons, Ace Frehley and Peter Criss donned their classic stage makeup and costumes to play a four-song set Friday to benefit multiple sclerosis research. KISS was the headlining act at the 23rd annual Race to Erase MS fundraising gala held at the Beverly Hilton Hotel.

Former "American Idol"

judge Randy Jackson introduced the band and explained Stanley's absence. Jackson In this July 11, 2014 file photo, Paul Stanley speaks onstage during the "4th and Loud" portion of the AMC 2014 Summer TCA in Beverly Hills, Calif.

said the lead singer would be recovered in time to tour with KISS this summer.

Other performers at the fundraising dinner included Eric Benet, David Foster and "The Voice" winner Jordan Smith. The event raised more than \$250,000 toward finding a cure for the nervous system

### Singer Zac Brown was in hotel room where 4 arrested

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)— Country singer Zac Brown says in a statement that he was "in the wrong place at the wrong time" last week in a Palm Beach hotel room where four people were arrested for drug possession.

A report from Palm Beach

Police Department showed that Brown, lead singer of the Grammy-winning Zac Brown Band, was present when police arrived at the Four Seasons Hotel on April 8. He was not charged or arrested. The incident was first reported by TMZ.com.

Brown said in a statement on Friday that he did not know the people arrested and cooperated fully with police. He says he is not part of any ongoing police investigation.

Brown said he regretted "using poor judgment and putting myself in that position."



In this June 12, 2015 file photo, Zac Brown of the Zac Brown Band performs at LP Field at the CMA Music Festival in Nashville, Tenn.

### Ace Frehley hospitalized with exhaustion after show

### WILKES-BARRE,

Pa. (AP)—Former Kiss lead guitarist Ace Frehley has been hospitalized for exhaustion and forced to cancel a show in New York.

A post on his website and Facebook page says he was admitted to a hospital after Friday's show at the F.M. Kirby Center in Wilkes-Barre (WILKS'-ba-ree), sylvania. The post says his symptoms are due to "exhaustion and dehydration."

Frehley's website says he "reluctantly" agreed to cancel Saturday night's soldout show at The Chance in Poughkeepsie (poh-KIHP'see).

The site says he had to cancel a show April 9 in New Hope, Pennsylvania, after a band member was sick.

The 64-year-old Frehley has been touring all month.

## Wife of hypercritical husband must create her own space

EAR ABBY: My husband is extremely critical of others. He almost never has anything nice to say about anyone. He badmouths his co-workers, friends, family members and strangers. We don't have friends anymore because he doesn't want to be around them. I don't understand his type of personality.

He thinks his way of thinking and doing things is the only right way and everyone else is wrong. He's always quick to shift the blame when something goes awry. If he accidentally bumps into someone or breaks something, it's never his fault —the person was in his way, or the broken object was junk, etc.

What makes people this way? Is there any hope that he can change? We are nearing retirement age, and I need my space. I cannot be his everything.

REACHED THE LIMIT IN INDIANA

DEAR REACHED: It appears you married a self-entitled misanthrope. Not knowing him, I can't guess why your husband is this way. Change is possible in anyone, IF the person recognizes the need for it and wants to change. From your description, he must be a heavy load to carry, and I doubt he will admit the need.

If you want to continue this marriage and save your sanity after he retires, you must create separate time, hobbies

and relationships for yourself apart from him, and be prepared in advance for the fact that he won't like it one bit.

**DEAR ABBY**: Kudos to you for your advice to "Willing to Do It in West Virginia" (Dec. 10), who asked for advice regarding temporarily adopting her son "Kevin's" dog while he was away on deployment, which her husband did not want to do. The husband felt that Kevin getting the dog in the first place was a mistake and her son should "learn his lesson." You advised that they should temporarily take the dog, since there was no way of knowing what might happen during his deployment.

Giving the dog to a shelter would have a high probability of being a death sentence. That's not humane when there are viable alternatives, and the situation is no fault of the dog's. An alternative would be to contact Dogs on Deployment (dogsondeployment.org), a national nonprofit that provides an online network that connects service members with volunteers willing to board their pets during their service commitments.

Dogs on Deployment promotes responsible, lifelong pet ownership by advocating for military pet owner rights, providing educational resources, and granting financial assistance for military pet owners during times of emergency.

JENNIFER IN SAN DIEGO

### DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren. also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



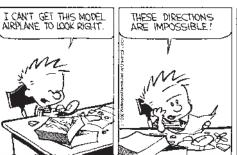
DEAR JENNIFER: Thank you for the information. Other Dear Abby readers mentioned that returning soldiers may have witnessed traumatic things during deployment and, once they return home, need the unconditional love an animal companion provides. Along with Dogs on Deployment, other organizations that may be helpful to military families include PACT for Animals, Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet or the local SPCA.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

**22** MONDAY, APRIL 18, 2016 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# **Pastimes**

### Calvin and Hobbes







By Bill Waterson

### **Garfield®**







Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

### **The Duplex**

By Glenn McCoy

By Jim Davis











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**54** Dog's 4 - 18 Friday's answer

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: America Ferrera, 32; Melissa Joan Hart, 40; Conan O'Brien, 53; Jane Leeves, 55.

Happy Birthday: Bring joy to others and you will find happiness as well. Make this the year to master your talents and fine-tune the way you present who you are and how you look. Aim to cut overhead and reduce debt. Choose to make a difference by participating in community events. Make love a priority, and your personal life will improve. Your numbers are 2. 10, 17, 23, 26, 39, 43.

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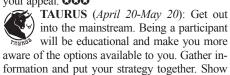
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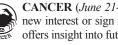
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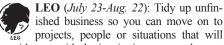
ARIES (March 21-April 19): Strive for accuracy in your professional responsibilities. The way you handle your work will determine your ability to earn more. A commitment to a personal or professional contract looks promising. A physical change will add to your appeal. 🛇 🗘 🗘



appreciation to someone you love. **GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): Offer to help others, but don't let anyone take you for granted. Make sure you get what you want by making your expectations clear to others. Update your image and you will be motivated to upgrade your skills as well. 🗪



CANCER (June 21-July 22): Explore a new interest or sign up for an event that offers insight into future trends. The connections you make will provide food for thought and a chance to try out something that intrigues you. Learn as you go. 🗪 🗘



ished business so you can move on to projects, people or situations that will provide you with the inspiration you need to get back in to shape. Find a new way to use your talents to forge ahead. 🛇 😂

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Take the plunge and don't stop until you reach your destination. Your desire to be the best will be honored by onlookers. Push for what you want and take over if you feel you can do a better job. 🛇 🗘

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Mull over what you are up against and you'll find a way to make subtle changes that will position you for personal gains. Stabilize your future by putting an end to unhealthy situations. Romance will lead to a positive change. •••

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Read, explore and delve in to something that intrigues you. You will have clear vision and the drive to turn your ideas into a reality. Push for excellence and you will find ways to change your life and enhance your reputation. ����

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Concentrate on what you can do to make your domestic life better. Don't be swayed by someone who is trying to push you toward extravagance. Love is on the rise, but being with the right partner will help improve your **EUGENIA** 

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You are ready to make a strategic move, so stop waffling and take action. Don't let unexpected pitfalls slow you down. Size up your situation and outmaneuver any obstacles you encounter. Produce present and execute your plans

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Taking care of personal needs will prepare you to turn your dreams into something tangible. Life is what you make it, and with a positive attitude and a simple plan, you will get positive results. **QQQ** 

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Strive to make your investments grow. Whether it's through personal self-improvements, educational pursuits or searching for an opportunity to put your ideas to good use, success is

within your reach. Believe in your ability to upstage anyone who gets in your way. Birthday Baby: You are composed, patient and organized. You are precise and progressive.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ http://bit.ly/exhoro and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

well-being. **QQ** 

4/18

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Difficulty Level \*

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

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Friday's SIIDOKII Answer

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### WONDERWORD OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each latter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD. MAUREEN O'HARA (1920-2015) Solution: 7 letter

MACRESIA O HARA (1920-2013) Solution 1 to									uc ca					
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58

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(2) Cook

Minimum of 2 years experience required Eligible U.S. workers.

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Duties: Performs land survey-related data and document research. Conducts field cadastral,

topographic and/or as-built surveys on assigned projects. Operates survey instruments during

the conduct of assigned survey work. Organizes and takes survey field notes according to procedures established by the chief of surveys. Downloads and assists in the plotting of data

from data collectors according to procedures established by the chief of surveys. Uses

computer-based land survey software applications to perform land survey-related computa-

tions. Works and coordinates with engineers and environmental scientists to satisfy survey

If interested, send resume to Duenas, Camacho & Associates, Incorporated by email to

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Proof of qualifications and police clearance required within one week of acceptance to hire.

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Applicants are requested to submit their original application and supporting documents to the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, no later than 4:30 p.m., Friday, May 6, 2016, OR MAILED AND POSTMARKED no later than May 6, 2016, to the Corporate Director, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950.

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) that the merit system will be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by its personnel regulations and the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability or place of origin.

For inquiries, please contact Ms. Jocelyn C. Seman, Office Manager at (670) 234-9447/7689 or by email to officemanager@nmhcgov.net. NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

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# Warriors bring down Rockets in playoff opener

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—Stephen Curry dazzled from long range and drove to the hoop with flair and fire until a tweaked ankle finally slowed him down.

Once he sat for good after three firm requests to coach Steve Kerr about returning, his supporting cast handled the rest.

"Like a kid in timeout over there on the bench," Curry said of his mood.

He still did plenty, scoring 24 points as the Golden State Warriors beat the Houston Rockets 104-78 on Saturday in their playoff opener.

The reigning MVP's status for the next game is uncertain.

"Right now I don't see a scenario I would be out," Curry said, noting that could change if it gets worse or there's risk of further trouble. "Pain tolerance, all that stuff, I kind of know what I can deal with on the court."

Draymond Green added 12 points and 10 rebounds as topseeded Golden State carried momentum from setting the all-time wins record Wednesday night with No. 73 into a testy playoff opener some 60 hours later.

Game 2 in the best-of-seven series is Monday night at Oracle Arena, and Kerr said Curry is questionable for that one. He will be re-evaluated Sunday.

"You lose the MVP of the NBA it definitely changes your team," Green said. "There's some concern."

The Warriors topped the Michael Jordan-led Bulls of 1995-96, then immediately made one thing clear: That mark will mean nothing if they don't bring home backto-back titles to the East Bay

James Harden scored 17 points and didn't have a free throw attempt for cold-shooting Houston, held to six field goals in the first quarter of the rematch from last year's Western Conference finals, won by Golden State in five.

Dwight Howard had 14 points and 11 rebounds and Harden was limited to four fouls and four points in the first half before helping Houston narrow a 27-point deficit to 16 late in the third.

Curry utterly flustered defensive menace Patrick Beverley. Then, when Jason Terry took a turn at stopping the reigning MVP, Curry pulled up for long 3s and drove the baseline for reverse layups on the left side. He dribbled right through traffic in the paint late in the first half before double-pumping and beautifully spinning the ball off the



He didn't slow down until hurting his right ankle just before halftime, but he got it re-taped and briefly returned before heading back to the locker room with 8:31 to go in the third to have it taped once more and not returning to the game.

A day earlier, when Klay Thompson was asked whether Beverley had a chance to stop Curry, the fellow Splash Brother's simple answer was "no."

Curry, who made an NBArecord 402 3-pointers in the regular season, went 8 for 13 with five 3s while playing all of about 20 minutes. Thompson scored 16, Marreese Spei-

ghts matched his playoff high with 12 points, while Andre Iguodala dished out seven as-

Things got heated in a hurry. With Beverley smothering Curry's every dribble, they became tangled up with 6:31 left in the first quarter. Curry kept his dribble while going down to his left knee before their arms got entwined and led to shoving.

"It felt it was a little too much, so I protected myself and moved on," Curry said.

Beverley immediately received a technical then, after a review, Curry also received

"It's part of the game, it's

playoffs. Emotions are going to be high and it's going to get chippy out there," Howard said. "I think we allowed it to get us a little frustrated. We've got to figure out a way to play through that."

Perhaps the early start— 12:30pm local time—contributed to both teams' cold shooting out of the gate.

They missed their first seven shots combined before Curry's 3-pointer at 9:41. Houston missed its initial six before Howard's dunk and three-point play at 8:24

Houston, which reached the playoffs on the final day of the regular season as the No. 8 seed, shot 35.7 percent and 3-point range and 8 for 15 at

went 6 for 22 from long range.

### Pacers 100, Raptors 90

In Toronto, Paul George scored 33 points, Monta Ellis had 15 and Indiana beat Toronto in Game 1 of their firstround playoff series.

Jonas Valanciunas fouled out after scoring 12 points and setting a Raptors' playoff record with 19 rebounds.

All-Star guards Kyle Lowry and DeMar DeRozan both struggled for the secondseeded Raptors. Lowry made 3 of 13 field goal attempts while DeRozan made 5 of 19. The pair went 1 for 10 from Golden State Warriors' Draymond Green (23) is defended by Houston Rockets' Corey Brewer during the first half in Game 1 of a first-round NBA basketball playoff series Saturday, April 16, 2016, in Oakland, Calif.

the free-throw line.

DeRozan finished with 14 points and Lowry had 11. Cory Joseph scored 18.

Toronto dropped to 0-8 in the first game of an openinground playoff series.

#### Thunder 108, **Mavericks 70**

In Oklahoma City, Russell Westbrook had 24 points and 11 assists, Kevin Durant added 23 points, and the Thunder opened the Western Conference series with their most dominant postseason performance since moving to Oklahoma City.

Serge Ibaka had 17 points and nine rebounds, and Enes Kanter added 16 points and 13 rebounds for the Thunder.

It was Oklahoma City's largest victory margin in a playoff game since moving from Seattle before the 2008-09 season, and the lowest point total the franchise has allowed in a postseason game, in Seattle or Oklahoma City.

Dallas scored its fewest points ever in a playoff game, and its .298 field-goal percentage was the worst ever in a postseason game for a franchise that has existed since 1980.

Dirk Nowitzki led the Mavericks with 18 points.

Game 2 will be Monday in Oklahoma City.

# Lakers begin life after Kobe with uncertainty everywhere

EL SEGUNDO, Calif. (AP)—Mitch Kupchak writes the Los Angeles Lakers' roster with a marker on a white board in his office. On Friday morning, the general manager decided it was time to formally erase Kobe Bryant.

Kupchak took an eraser to Bryant's name. It didn't

"I guess at some point, the marker just stays," Kupchak said with a laugh.

The Lakers are trying to begin life after Bryant, but nothing about the process is easy. Kobe carried this franchise to remarkable heights, but he left it at the bottom.

"It is hard to close the book on this chapter, but it has come to the point that we have to do it," Kupchak said. "It's something I don't think we'll ever see again, if you put it all together. One player, 20 years."

Bryant dominated the Lak-

ers' payroll, offense and public image for much of the past two decades, including a \$25 million salary and a ravenous shot selection in his final season. The third-leading scorer in NBA history scored 60 points on 50 shots in his last game Wednesday, but the electric victory ended the Lakers' worst season ever at 17-65.

An iconic franchise must redefine itself after Bryant's maining Lakers wouldn't cede so much to Bryant. retirement. For the first time be an immediate playoff "This offseason in some together, Kupchak and owner Jim Buss must figure out how to build a contender while working under the Hollywood spotlight that constantly shines on this team—and without the shade provided by Kobe.

"We've never had this many young players on the team at the same time, and there's a price to pay for that," Kupchak said. "The only way to move on after a player has played 20 years is to hope you can get some young players to build around."

Indeed, the Lakers have a core of youthful talent after drafting D'Angelo Russell, Julius Randle, Jordan Clarkson and Larry Nance Jr. over the past two years. If they finish the May 17 draft lottery in the top three, they will keep their pick and add another major talent in June.

Kupchak realizes the recontender in the fall, and he intends to supplement the youngsters with free-agent talent. The Lakers could sign two free agents to maximum contracts after the removal of the combined \$40.5 million paid to Bryant and Roy Hibbert this season.

But the Lakers don't have much to offer veterans outside of that money, a decent young core and this franchise's high profile—which repelled more big names than it attracted while Bryant still was in town.

Dwight Howard spurned the Lakers in 2013, Pau Gasol followed him out the door in 2014, and no high-profile names signed up last summer. Kupchak chooses to be optimistic, hoping a couple of bigticket free agents could be attracted to the Lakers' mystique and promise without having to

ways will be more difficult, and in some ways will be easier," Kupchak said. "We do feel this year we have a lot more assets on our team than we did last year, the last two years."

Coach Byron Scott expects to return to the Lakers next season despite presiding over the two worst years in their history. The former Lakers guard is 38-126, and the fans' considerable displeasure has been focused largely on him.

### **Hawks 102,** Celtics 101

In Atlanta, Jeff Teague stymied another big Boston comeback, taking matters into his own hands in the closing minutes to lead Atlanta in Game 1 of the opening-round playoff series.

Teague scored 23 points and doled out 12 assists, making sure Atlanta maintained the home-court edge after the gritty Celtics rallied from a 19-point deficit.

With the game tied at 88, Teague worked the pick-androll to set up a layup for Al Horford. The Celtics missed and the Hawks again got the ball to Teague, who found Paul Millsap alone under the basket for a dunk that pushed Atlanta to a 92-88 lead with 2:56 remaining.

The Celtics had a chance to tie in the final minute, but Evan Turner missed an open 3-pointer.

Game 2 in the best-of-seven series is Tuesday night in Atlanta.

# Scherzer, Harper lead Nationals over Phillies



PHILADEL-PHIA (AP)— Max Scherzer

threw seven impressive innings and hit a two-run double, Bryce Harper hit another homer and the Washington Nationals beat the Philadelphia Phillies, 8-1, Saturday night.

The Nationals are off to a 9-1 start, best in franchise history.

Scherzer (2-0) allowed one run and five hits, striking out

Harper connected in the fifth, sending a deep drive out to right for his fifth homer. The reigning NL MVP has gone deep in his last five games in Philadelphia, dating to last

Aaron Nola (0-2) was the second Phillies starter roughed up by the Nationals in two games. He gave up seven runs and seven hits in five innings.

"I didn't have my fastball right out of the gate," Nola said. "I kept missing and they kept putting good swings on the ball."

#### Tigers 5, Astros 3

In Houston, Jarrod Saltalamacchia hit a go-ahead tworun homer in the sixth inning and Detroit rallied for a win over Houston.

Detroit trailed 3-0 after George Springer and Tyler White both homered off Justin Verlander (1-1) in the first inning. Detroit scored a run in the second and cut the lead to 1 in the fifth when White was charged with an error after a throw busted through the webbing of his glove, allowing another run to score.

### Rangers 8, Orioles 4

In Arlington, Mitch Moreland's go-ahead double off the right-field fence and Rougned Odor's two-run single highlighted a six-run seventh inning, leading Texas to a victory over Baltimore.

Delino DeShields and Nomar Mazara each had three hits for the Rangers. Mazara, promoted from Triple-A Round Rock last week, has two three-hit games in seven

### **Cubs 6, Rockies 2**

In Chicago, Jake Arrieta threw eight scoreless innings and Chicago hit three home runs to beat Colorado.

Arrieta (3-0), the reigning NL Cy Young winner, struck out eight and allowed five hits in his home debut. He has not allowed a run in his last 48 2/3 innings at Wrigley Field.

### Pirates 5, Brewers 0

In Pittsburgh, Andrew Mc-Cutchen hit his first home run of the season and Jon Niese combined with two relievers



on a three-hitter as Pittsburgh blanked Milwaukee to end its four-game losing streak.

McCutchen's solo shot off Taylor Jungmann in the fifth inning increased the Pirates' lead to 4-0 after they scored three runs in the fourth.

### **Braves 6, Marlins 4**

In Miami, Nick Markakis drove in three runs with three hits and Atlanta won for the second consecutive night after losing their first nine games, beating Miami.

The Braves came to Miami mired in their worst start since 1988, but they're now 27-12 at Marlins Park and will try for a three-game sweep Sunday.

### Rays 7, White Sox 2

In St.Peterburg, Brandon Guyer homered to end Tampa Bay's scoreless drought, Brad Miller added a two-run shot and the Rays stopped Chicago's five-game winning

Desmond Jennings also hit his first home run of the year for Tampa Bay, and Erasmo Ramirez pitched 5 2/3 shutout

### **Indians 7, Mets 5**

In Cleveland, Jason Kipnis and Cleveland handed New York's Matt Harvey his third straight loss to begin the sea-

Josh Tomlin pitched five solid innings for Cleveland after allowing a home run to the first batter he faced this season. Kipnis had an RBI double off Harvey and scored twice, and Mike Napoli drove in two runs.

### Reds 9, Cardinals 8

In St. Louis, Brandon Phillips, Zack Cozart and Jay Bruce had two RBI apiece for Cincinnati, which erased an early four-run deficit against St. Louis ace Adam Wainwright in a victory.

Stephen Piscotty had four RBI for St. Louis, and his three-run homer made it 4-0 in the second.

### Mariners 3, Yankees 2

In New York, Felix Hernandez looked uncomfortable all afternoon but overcame a career high-tying six walks, and Seattle held off New York for a third straight win.

The Yankees lost their

fourth in a row when Chase Headley grounded out with runners on second and third to end it, leaving them 0 for 24 with runners in scoring position during the first two games of the series.

### Twins 6, Angels 4

In Minneapolis, Oswaldo Arcia and Byung Ho Park homered in the eighth inning to lift Minnesota over Los Angeles for its second consecutive comeback victory after opening the season with nine straight losses.

Arcia broke a 4-all tie with his first home run of the season. It came off reliever Joe Smith (0-1) and was Minnesota's first hit since the fifth inning.

### Red Sox 4, Blue Jays 2

In Boston, David Price rebounded from a rough start in Boston's home opener with seven solid innings, Xander Bogaerts hit a threerun home run and the Red Sox beat Toronto.

It was Boston's third straight win. The Red Sox have defeated the defending AL East champs four times in five meetings.

### **Athletics 5, Royals 3**

In Oakland, Josh Reddick and Stephen Vogt homered to back Sonny Gray's solid effort, and Washington Nationals starting pitcher Max Scherzer throws in the first inning of a baseball game against the Philadelphia Phillies, Saturday, April 16, 2016, in Philadelphia.

Oakland ended a four-game losing streak with a victory over Kansas City.

Gray (2-1) pitched through trouble, lasting six innings to earn his first victory against the Royals in four starts, leaving the Boston Red Sox as the only AL team he has not yet beaten.

#### Padres 5, Diamondbacks 3

In San Diego, Melvin Upton Jr. hit a two-run homer with two outs in the 14th inning and the San Diego Padres beat the Arizona Diamondbacks for their first victory in five home games this season.

Upton drove the first pitch he saw from Ruby De La Rosa (0-3) over the centerfield fence. He was mobbed at home plate by his teammates after ending the game that lasted 5 hours, 25 minutes.

### **Giants 4, Dodgers 3**

In Los Angeles, Johnny Cueto pitched 7 1/3 sharp innings and the San Francisco Giants got run-scoring hits from Joe Panik, Brandon Crawford and Brandon Belt in a victory over the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Cueto (3-0) helped manager Bruce Bochy celebrate his 61st birthday, allowing a run and three hits with seven strikeouts.

Javier Lopez gave up Corey Seager's two-run homer in the eighth on a full count, but Santiago Casilla got the last three outs for his third save in four chances

# Rams grab No. 1 overall draft pick from Titans



OXNARD, Ca**lif.** (AP)—The Rams are tired of waiting to get a franchise

quarterback, and they want to make a splash in their return to Los Angeles.

of respect for Kobe Bryant, they went all in on one of the biggest trades in NFL draft history.

The Rams acquired the No. 1 overall pick from the Tennessee Titans, giving up six draft picks over the next two seasons in exchange for three choices.

General manager Les Snead and coach Jeff Fisher left little doubt the Rams will choose a quarterback with the top pick, hoping to end years of frustration at the most important position in football.

"This is a fun time, an exciting time," Fisher said Thursday at the team's temporary Southern California headquarters. "We still have work to do, (but) we're going to get the right guy, and ev-So after waiting a day out erybody is going to like him, and we're going to go out and win some games."

> Los Angeles has already held private workouts with California's Jared Goff and North Dakota State's Carson Wentz, generally considered the top two quarterback prospects in the field. Although Snead confirmed the Rams won't reveal their pick before draft night, the GM is clearly thrilled by the chance to add a potential franchise passer to an all-around solid roster lacking a centerpiece.

"We do have a few players in mind," Snead said with a grin. "There will be suspense leading all the way up. ... There's not enough (quarterbacks) on the planet to feed 32 NFL teams, so that is the challenge."

In the first NFL trade involving the top overall pick since 2004, the Rams also acquired Tennessee's choices in the fourth and sixth rounds. In exchange, the Titans got the 15th overall pick from Los Angeles along with two second-round selections and a third-round pick in this draft, along with the Rams' first- and third-round picks in 2017.

That's an extraordinary commitment of future resources, but the Rams are weary of waiting. They've missed the playoffs in 11 straight seasons, and haven't finished with a winning record since 2003.

"Historically, no one has done this," Fisher said. "Both Tennessee and we realize that no one has gone from 1 to 15."

The Rams went 7-9 in St. Louis last year while getting unimpressive quarterback play from Nick Foles and Case Keenum. With the franchise entering the crowded Los Angeles sports market after 21 years away, the opportunity was ideal to add a marquee name to a team already boasting star running back Todd Gurley and a talented defense.

Snead and Fisher ran the deal by Rams owner Stan Kroenke, who approved of both the bold move and its timing.

# Aston Villa relegated after 28 years in English top flight

LONDON (AP)—Aston Villa's 28-year stay in the English top flight ended on Saturday with a 1-0 loss at Manchester United, while Newcastle and Sunderland gave themselves hope of escaping the Premier League relegation zone by both winning 3-0.

The threat of relegation ended some time ago for Chelsea, but an 11th loss of a feeble title defense was inflicted by Manchester City. Sergio Aguero's hat trick secured a 3-0 win that bolstered City's position in the Champions League places.

Relegation to the secondtier League Championship was confirmed for former European champion Villa in a season of turmoil that has seen the bottom-place club collect only 16 points from 34 games. Marcus Rashford's goal sealed Villa's fate, while keeping United in touch with the top four.

"It's never nice to see it confirmed but it's been on the cards for a while," Aston Villa defender Joleon Lescott told the BBC. "Now it's official it's a weight off people's shoulders and we can go into the last four games with a bit of freedom and something to prove ... and show the fans we



still have a fight in us."

Villa has been in the Premier League since its inaugural season in 1992-93 and had been in the top flight in its previous guise for four years before that. Villa won the top tier in 1981 and followed it up by lifting the European Cup the following season but was relegated in 1987.

Villa, now owned by American businessman Randy Lerner, is likely to find it harder

to make an instant return to the top division like it did in 1988.

There has never been a worse time to be relegated from the Premier League. New television contracts kick in from next season, worth

more than 8.3 billion pounds (\$12 billion) over three years. Teams are set to earn at least 100 million pounds per season in TV and prize money.

Villa is in line to receive around 65 million pounds for

finishing bottom in a sliding scale that sees the champions earn around 100 million pounds.

Newcastle and Sunderland are both scrapping to avoid mis-

scrapping to avoid missing out on the larger windfall from next season.

Sunderland moved one point from safety by winning at Norwich and it has a game in hand over the eastern England club, which is immediately outside of the relegation zone in 17th. Fabio Borini put Sunderland ahead from the penalty spot in the first half, while Jermaine Defoe and Duncan Watmore

netted after the break.

Newcastle is two points behind Sunderland after beating Swansea and Rafa Benitez's team also has a game in hand over Norwich. Jamaal Lascelles headed Newcastle ahead at the end of the first half and there were late goals from Moussa Sissoko and Andros Townsend.

Saturday's focus at the top of the standings was on the scrap for the fourth Champions League spot.

City followed up its midweek victory over Paris Saint-Germain, which secured a Champions League semifinal against Real Madrid, by dismantling Chelsea.

Aguero's first two goals completed counterattacks launched by Kevin De Bruyne. The third came from an 80th-minute penalty after Chelsea goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois was dismissed for clipping Fernandinho.

City provisionally climbed above Arsenal into third place. United is three points behind Arsenal in fifth place and could have to settle for a place in the second-tier Europa League.

The focus returns to the title race in the coming days.

On Sunday, Leicester hosts West Ham and third-place Arsenal takes on Crystal Palace. Tottenham, which is seven points behind Leicester in

second, is at Stoke on Monday.

Elsewhere on Saturday, seventh-place Southampton remains in contention for Europa League qualification after drawing 1-1 at Everton. Watford climbed to 12th place by winning 1-0 at West Bromwich Albion thanks to goalkeeper Heurelho Gomes saving two penalties after Ben Watson's goal.

## US women to face New Zealand, France, Colombia in Olympics

**NEW YORK** (AP)—The U.S. women's soccer team will open its quest for a fourth straight Olympic gold medal against New Zealand, then play France and Colombia in the first round of the tournament in Brazil.

The Americans were drawn Thursday to play New Zealand on Aug. 3 at Belo Horizonte. The U.S. meets France three days later, also in Belo Horizonte, then plays Colombia on Aug. 9 at Manaus in the Amazon, where the American men tied Portugal 2-2 at the 2014 World Cup.

If the United States wins Group G, it would play its quarterfinal on Aug. 12 in Brasilia against a third-place team from one of the other two groups. The Brasilia winner would advance to a semifinal on Aug. 16 in Rio de Janeiro's Maracana, where the final will be played on Aug. 19.

"We have tremendous respect for all of our opponents and know each one will bring a different style that we must be prepared for, but as always our prime focus continues to be on the evolution of this team so we are playing our best during the Olympics," U.S. coach There

ing the Olympics," U.S. coach Jill Ellis said in a statement.

Brazil, China, South Africa and Sweden are in Group E, and Australia, Canada, Germany and Zimbabwe are in Group F.

Canada and the United States each qualified for the Olympics at the CONCA-CAF qualifying tournament in Texas earlier this year. The Canadians finished with the bronze medal at the 2012 London Games.

"The reality now is to try to fix up good games prior to the

> event ... to make sure that we get the type of games we need with the opponents we have in our group stage," Canada coach John Herdman told The Canadian Press.

There are 12 teams in the women's tournament and 16 in the men's tournament. The U.S. has won four of the five gold medals in women's soccer, missing only when it lost to Norway in the 2000 final.

Following Thursday's draw, U.S. goalkeeper Hope Solo told Sports Illustrated that she will play in Brazil, despite fears she expressed in February about the Zika virus.

While she said she would take steps to protect herself, she expressed concern about the match in Manaus. Mosquitoes, which carry diseases including Zika and malaria, were also an issue there during the 2014 World Cup.

"I'm disheartened that the IOC (International Olympic Committee) will not be moving the games from Manaus to at least help the risk," she wrote to SI. "Knowing what we know about Zika, it's irresponsible."

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control recently confirmed that Zika is a cause of a birth defect called microcephaly, which causes abnormal brain development and is marked by infants born with small heads.

### **BRAVES**

From Page 28

spread.

The Braves kept the fiverun cushion after five and a half innings before the Enforcers rallied at the bottom of the sixth to move within one. Maratita and Tom Agulto each hit an RBI single in that comeback bid, while Gloyd Martin and Chris Achas scored the two other runs off a sacrifice out and catcher's error.

The Enforcers then boosted their chances to steal the lead from the Braves and grab the win when the latter failed to

reach home at the top of the seventh and last inning. At the bottom of the seventh, Donovan Guerrero led off for the Enforces, was hit by pitch, and eventually made it to third off a fielder's choice and passed ball. However, Guerrero was left stranded at third and Achas at second as the Braves got the last two outs. A 5-3 putout play on Martin moved the Braves one out away from completing the upset, which happened when Alvarez caught a fly ball from Agulto. The Braves earlier got the first out off a 1-3 putout play on Rabauliman.

### RAULERSON

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following a 6-3, 6-4 victory over Conatsu Kaga.

Conatsu may have missed a finals seat in the girls U18, but she still has a chance to win a championship in Northern Mariana Islands Tennis Association's last local tournament for the 2015-2016 season after barging into the title game in the girls U16 singles. Conatsu made it to the finals after surviving Erika Tuttle in three sets, 6-7 (5), 6-1, 6-4. Her finals foe could be the top-ranked Raulerson or her sister Coume. The younger Kaga advanced to the semis after beating Maria Gregoire, 6-0, 7-6 (7), while Raulerson drew a bye in the division to get an automatic Final Four ticket. The Raulerson-Coume semis tiff will be played this weekend.

Coume also played in the girls U14 singles and will be battling Gregoire for the division championship also in the final week of the annual tournament. Coume is at the lower half of the draw and downed Tuttle, 6-4, 7-6 (6) to barge into the finals against Gregoire, a 6-1, 6-2 winner against Riko Ojima at the top half of the draw. Ojima earned the right to face the top-ranked Gregoire in the semis after ousting Rei Sekiguchi, 6-0, 6-2.

In the girls U10 singles, it will be JC Ferrer and Thaileena Raulerson. Ferrer pulled off an upset against the No. 1 seed Anika Camacho, 7-5, while the second-ranked Raulerson lived up to her lofty billing following a 6-1 rout versus Yejin Son.

Meanwhile, results in the boys singles and doubles will be reported in *Saipan Tribune* later this week.

### **MAMI**

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ner to complete the marathon in under three hours with his 2:42:12. Okayama won against fellow Japanese Hiroaki Sano by a big margin, as the latter clocked in at 3:24:55. Three more Japanese runners and one Chinese bet made it to the Top 6 with Shinobu Sueyoshi coming in at third (3:38:02), followed by Chung Hua Huang (3:31:25), Goshi Sato (3:41:00), and Hisashi Matsuura (3:42:06).

Meanwhile, Saipan's Lo-

rie Hutchinson topped the women's 50K after logging 4:28:26. She prevailed against Japan's Juri Tajima (4:50:04), Nozomi Yatabe (4:54:27), Sachi Nohara (6:01:52), and Masako Duko (6:27:42), and China's Hongtao Zhang (5:41:27).

In the men's division, Masayaku Abe broke the four-hour barrier (3:39:22) to finish on top of the entire field. He defeated fellow Japanese runners Masato Ueda (4:48:26), Takashi Kano (5:03:25), Toru Aizawa (5:05:20), Tsuyoshi Asada (5:10:31), and Shinya Yura (5:19:42).

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Scherzer, Harper lead Nationals over Phillies

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# Mami gets 5th Saipan Marathon win



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com

rule last Saturday's 2016 Saipan Marathon.

The long-time runner completed the race from the American Memorial Park to Mariana Resort, Pacific Islands Club in San Antonio, and back to the starting line in 3:15:19, eclipsing her 3:28:19 time last year when she won the same event against several Japanese bets.

amiko Berger battled back problems to

"I was aiming to beat my personal best (3:09:49 during the 2012 Saipan Marathon), but I don't

want to push myself too hard after I hurt my back about a week ago. However, I am still happy that I was able to finish and win this race again," said Berger.

It was Berger's second back-to-back first place finish in the 42.195-kilometer race of the annual event. She had her first two straight triumph in the Saipan Marathon in 2008 and 2009 for a total of five, adding her 2012 win. Berger also topped the 50K course of the event in 2013 and 2014

Of those victories, this year's is special as her parents—Satoru and Fusae—saw her crossed the finish line of Saipan Marathon for the first time

"This win is for them and to those who have been supporting me since

I started joining Saipan Marathon in 2006," said Berger, who initially considered quitting running once she is done with last Saturday's race as she has logged a lot of miles in more than a decade of hitting the road.

"I was thinking to quit because I feel like I am tired, but after doing this race, I changed my mind. I will continue to run," the 46-year-old runner said.

Berger was never threatened in the women's division race, making it to the finish line nearly 10 minutes ahead of runner-up and Japan's Satomi Oka (3:24:56). Another Saipanbased runner, Sakiko Eda, came in at third in her first marathon after submitting 3:53:28, while Japan's Mariko Mori (4:07:49), Miyuki Kudo (5:34:10), and Kanako Hirata (5:37:17) rounded out the Top 6 in the women's ranking.

Berger placed second overall behind men's division champion Haruki Okayama, who was the only run-

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# Braves nip Enforcers in Junior League

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com



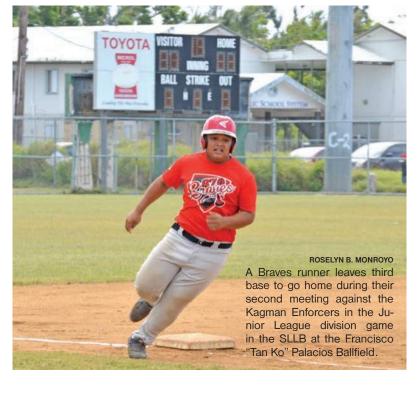
The Braves caught a big fish in division leader Kagman Enforcers after eking out a 7-6

victory in their Junior League game last Saturday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield

The Braves found their targets early to take control of the match and then withstood their ground against the Enforcers' rally to improve to a 4-4 record and hand the Enforcers their second loss in eight games.

Joe Tudela helped the Braves dictate the tempo of the match as he blasted a three-RBI double at the top of the second inning. Jose Alvarez added a run off the Enforcers' error at third base for the Braves' 4-0 lead.

Tudela was also the Braves' starting pitcher and worked the mound in 2.6 innings, giving up no hits and walking three. He started his shift



with back-to-back defensive stops as he teamed up with Philip Kapileo for the 1-3 putout plays on the Enforcers' first two batters. The Enforcers went on to finish the bottom of the first inning without a run as they were called for the third out when Pedro Maratita was beaten to second base.

The Enforcers also failed to hit the board in the second, allowing the Braves to open a 4-0 advantage, which was extended to a 6-2 lead at the top of the third with Kapileo connecting an RBI double and reaching home off an Enforcers' error.

The Enforcers then finally lit up the board at the bottom of the third, thanks to Sean Rabauliman's two-RBI walk. However, the Enforcers went cold anew in the next two innings, while the Braves added one more run off Robin Sablan's sacrifice out in the fourth inning for a 7-2

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# Raulerson gains finals berth in U18 singles

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.con



Asia Raulerson booked the first finals ticket in the girls U18 singles event in the 2016 CNMI Junior Tennis Champi-

onships after slipping past Tania Tan yesterday at the American Memorial Park tennis courts.

Raulerson lost the opening set, 1-6, before rallying in the last two, 6-4, 6-4, to take the finals berth at the lower half of the draw. Earlier last Saturday, Raulerson set up her semis duel against Tan after eliminating Malika Miyawaki, 6-3, 6-4. Tan, on the other hand, knocked out Ami Tsukagoshi, 6-1, 6-1.

At the top half of the draw, the No. 1 seed Isabel Heras marched into the semis after beating Grace Choi, 6-0, 6-1. Heras was scheduled to meet Mimi Ssakano in the other Final Four game yesterday afternoon, but results of their match were unavailable at press time. Sakano moved into the semis

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO Asia Raulerson serves to Tania Tan during their semis game in the 2016 CNMI Junior Tennis Championships yesterday at the American Memorial Park tennis courts.